

Libyan agents to face charges of spying, murder

CAIRO (AP) — Amid a flood of revelations reminiscent of the fictional spy James Bond, Egypt said Wednesday it was considering charges of espionage, conspiracy to murder and international bribery against four Libyan agents involved in an abortive plot to assassinate a former Libyan Prime Minister.

The leading state-owned newspaper Al-Ahram ran an account by the commander of a four-man security unit showing that the Libyan agents, two Britons and two Maltese, went ahead with their mission to kill Abdel-Hamid Bakouh although at least three of them knew their Egyptian helpers were policemen.

The state-run Middle East News Agency and all Cairo newspapers carried what they described as a hand-written confession by Anthony William Gill, a 48-year-old British businessman said to be leader of the Libyan group, detailing his contacts with Libya and leading up to his Cairo assignment to kill Bakouh.

"I was beginning to feel I was James Bond," Gill was quoted as saying in his statement after admitting he had helped to smuggle out of Britain a Libyan under investigation for a drug offence.

Chief state prosecutor Ragaa El-Araby told the Associated Press his department was continuing to interrogate the Libyan agents and was considering charging them with communications with a foreign country, conspiracy to murder and international bribery. He declined to predict when an official charge sheet would be issued.

In Egyptian legal parlance, communication with a foreign country is tantamount to espionage.

Gill was arrested on Saturday along with fellow Briton Godfrey Philip Shiner, 47, and Maltese nationals Romeo Nicholas-kambari and Edgar Bonic Cacia as they prepared to leave the country after being invited into believing their Egyptian collaborators had slain Bakouh.

Al-Ahram quoted the commander of the police team, who was not named for security reasons, as saying he told the Maltese members of the hit squad when they arrived in Cairo in late October that he knew of their plan to kill Bakouh but was ready to co-operate with them for 150,000 dollars.

The police officer said his group was backed by a highly placed intelligence officer who would help carry out the plan

and would get the lions share of the price.

The terrorist (Gill) was abducted but he became assured that it would be possible to carry out the operation quickly and that "we (Egyptians) would facilitate his exit from Egypt quickly afterward," the officer said.

Gill subsequently sent for Shiner who brought some of the money promised the Egyptian team, he said.

The Egyptian policemen then staged a sham abduction of Bakouh in the Cairo suburb of Heliopolis as he was driving at night. The two Britons watched from a distance in a car. The Egyptians took Bakouh to a house in a deserted area, and took pictures of him feigning a bloody death from bullet wounds.

The Egyptian unit commander said the Libyan agents were allowed only a quick glance at the body and were also shown the pictures which were then sent to the Libyan embassy in Malta.

The 46-year-old Bakouh, a sworn enemy of Libyan leader Moammar Qadhafi, has been a political refugee in Cairo since 1977.

The official Libyan radio, in a gloating announcement last Friday, said Bakouh had been executed. But Bakouh, who was prime minister under the Monarchy Qadhafi overthrew in 1969, appeared at a news conference with Egypt's Interior (Police) Minister Ahmed Rushdi on Saturday.

According to Gill's alleged confession, his contacts with Libya began in 1983 and he was motivated by financial gain because his textile and spare parts business in Britain was failing. His success in spiriting Libyan national Mohamed Shibly out of Britain encouraged him to accept further missions for Libya in quest of money and business contracts, he said.

"I thought I could do everything that was asked," he said.

I was given the picture, name and address of someone in Egypt and orders to eliminate him," he said in an apparent reference to Bakouh. "I was not told who he was, and did not know how to do this kind of job."

The Egyptians said confessions by the Libyan hit team showed Libya was plotting to assassinate several world statesmen, including leaders of West Germany, Britain, France, Saudi Arabia and other Arab states.



SANTA MARIA, MEXICO (AP) — IDENTIFYING THE DEAD — Relatives stand looking at bodies at makeshift morgue in a Mexico City suburb Tuesday, searching for loved ones killed in one of the country's worst disasters (AP Laserphoto)

Japanese Foreign Minister meets Mubarak

CAIRO (AP) — Japanese foreign minister Shintaro Abe conferred Wednesday with president Hosni Mubarak.

Abe arrived in Cairo Tuesday on a two-day visit, the last leg of an Africa tour that took him earlier to Zambia and Ethiopia.

Abe and Egyptian planning minister Kamal El-Ganzoury Tuesday night signed an agreement under which Japan pledged \$27 million as a grant for construction of an Opera house in Cairo.

Japanese embassy officials said another agreement concerning a Japanese soft loan of about \$53 million to Egypt for construction of a power plant, originally scheduled for a signature during Abe's visit, will be signed in the near future. They gave no reason for the delay.

The state-run Middle East News Agency quoted Abe as saying Mubarak had briefed him or Libyan leader Col. Moammar Qadhafi's various assassination plans recently uncovered.

Egypt said on Saturday its security authorities had foiled an attempt by Libyan agents to assassinate former Libyan premier and Qadhafi foe Abdel-Hamid Bakouh, a political exile in Cairo since 1977.

Egyptain officials said confessions made by four arrested agents, two Britons and two Maltese, showed Libya was plotting to assassinate leaders from West Germany, France, Britain and several Arab countries including Saudi Arabia.

The agency quoted Abe as saying Mubarak's briefing was most interesting, "and to me it was like seeing one of the films of (fictional spy) James Bond."

Abe also said international terrorism was a serious threat to world peace and stability and countries should co-operate to confront it, according to the agency.

GCC plans collective defence plan

KUWAIT (AP) — Foreign Minister of the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council held a secret session here Wednesday, devoted mainly to collective military defence arrangements and means of fending off the hazards of the Iraq-Iran war.

The ministers were paving the way for the fifth GCC summit, scheduled for 27 November in Kuwait.

Conference sources said the ministers were touching up a joint defence strategy laid down by the GCC defence ministers during their meeting in Abha, Saudi Arabia, last September.

The proposed strategy calls for a joint high command, unified air defence and naval patrol systems and outlines co-ordinated policies on arms purchases and ground troop deployments by the member countries.

Born in May 1981, the GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman in a regional economic integration and collective defence pact.

It was prompted mainly by conditions of disunity among the Arab League member states, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the advent of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in revolutionary Iran.

The GCC countries, which double as members of the Arab League, have said they fear a Soviet menace creeping closer to their doorsteps with the invasion of Afghanistan. The Iranian Islamic regime

also has been viewed as a threat, with Khomeini often threatening to export his revolutionary ideals to the GCC countries.

The outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war in September 1980 and the subsequent threat to oil tanker navigation through Gulf sea lanes impelled the GCC countries to substantially increase their arms purchases and devise collective defence blueprints.

Saudi Arabia, the Middle East oil giant and the leading GCC power, has acquired sizable air defence weapons from the United States and was shopping for anti-aircraft missile systems and multi-role torpedo combat planes from Britain.

Kuwait has failed to buy anti-aircraft stinger missiles from the United States, turning to the Soviet Union for \$327 million worth of military hardware.

In addition, the GCC countries have earmarked more than \$1.8 billion to beef up military defence capabilities in Bahrain and Oman.

The foreign ministers have underscored the objective of the military strategy as strictly defensive and not in any way aimed against any power in particular.

Arab diplomatic sources said that one option being deliberated by the foreign minister was to define a shipping corridor close to the Gulf western coastline, where joint GCC navy units would conduct regular patrol missions.

The corridor, they said, would be protected by coast guns and regular reconnaissance flights by the air forces of the GCC states.

The so-called tanker war, an offshoot of the 50-month-old Iraq-Iran conflict, has so far crippled more than 50 Arab and other oil tankers and bulk tankers.

India's opposition parties fail in unity talks

NEW DELHI (AP) — India's fragmented opposition failed Wednesday to work out a common strategy to challenge Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's governing congress party in next month's parliamentary elections.

Talks for opposition unity that began Tuesday broke off after two hours, prompting one leader to shorten his stay in New Delhi and fly back to Southern India.

Although time was running out, opposition leaders were expected to continue their unity efforts before nominations for the elections end on 27 Nov.

Menaka Gandhi, the new prime minister's estranged sister-in-law, meanwhile filed her nomination Wednesday to challenge him from his constituency in Northern India.

The 28-year-old widow of Sanjay Gandhi, who was killed in a stunt plane

crash in 1980, will oppose Rajiv Gandhi in the Amethi constituency in Uttar Pradesh state, which accounts for 85 of the 515 seats being contested 24 December, 27 and 28 for the Lok Sabha, or the Lower House of Parliament.

The Prime Minister's party, which won a two-thirds majority in the 1980 elections, is expected to capitalize on a wave of sympathy generated by the 31 October assassination of his mother, Indira Gandhi.

Opposition leaders began talks in the Indian capital Tuesday on fielding single candidates in each constituency to avoid a split in opposition votes.

The meeting, called by NT Rama Rao, Chief Minister of southern Andhra Pradesh state, failed to resolve disputes over the number of seats each opposition party should contest, especially in the populous Hindi belt of Northern India.

usually determines the outcome of national elections.

PNC ends today

By San'a Alul
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Members of the Palestine National Council (PNC) were holding a meeting late Wednesday which was likely to continue until early hours of Thursday. However, late Wednesday night the council has decided to meet again on Thursday morning when the final communiqué will be released.

The Star has learned that the following members have been elected to the PLO's Executive Committee: Chairman Yasser Arafat, Mr Farouq Qaddoumi, Mr Mahmoud Abbas, Mr Mohammed Abbas, Mr Yasser Abed Rabuh, Mr Jamal Sourani, Dr Hana Nasser, Mr Juweid Al Gousein, Mr Abdul Razaq Al Yahya, Mr Fahed Al Qawassmi, Mr Abdul Rahim Al Ahmad. Three seats have been left vacant to be filled by the PFLP, General Command and the Sa'qa.

In a statement to The Star the PLO Chairman said that the PLO supports the idea of holding a UN-sponsored conference to be attended by the two superpowers.

ers and be based on the Fez summit resolutions. He said that the Democratic Alliance has participated through the popular and national organizations.

Early Wednesday the PLO chairman withdrew his resignation upon the popular demand of the PNC members and addressed the council saying that the holding of the council in Amman is a victory for the Palestinian legitimacy. He said that he was intending to submit his resignation from the early beginning on Thursday but "my colleagues insisted that I drop it in the presence of His Majesty King Hussein."

Mr Arafat said that the 119 unattending members were prevented from coming to the PNC sessions through threats and compulsory residence. "They were told that their families will be hurt or their passports confiscated and you all know what passports mean to the Palestinians." Observers believe that the final communiqué by the PNC will stress on the special relations the Jordanians and Palestinians share and on the need to work out all possibilities to save the occupied lands.

Jordan sponsors resolutions

NEW YORK (Star) — Jordan is one of the sponsors of three draft resolutions introduced into the General Assembly's Middle East debate Wednesday calling for the severance of diplomatic relations with Israel and a boycott of buying from or supplying weapons and war equipment to Israel.

The resolutions, which are expected to be acted upon later this week, also call for a suspension of economic and technological assistance to Israel and a breaking off of trade and cultural relations.

The resolutions declare "null and void" Israel's action in imposing its laws and administration in the Holy City of Jerusalem, hold such decisions illegal and deplore the transfer by some states of their diplomatic mission to occupied Jerusalem.

The sponsors reaffirm "that the question of Palestine is the core" of the Middle East conflict "and that no comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region

will be achieved without the full exercise by the Palestinian people of their inalienable national rights and the immediate, unconditional and total withdrawal of Israel from all the Palestinian and other occupied Arab territories."

One of the resolutions expresses the belief that the Arab peace plan adopted unanimously at the 12th Arab summit held at Fez, Morocco, is "an important contribution towards the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East."

It also reaffirms the call for an international peace conference on the Mideast proposed in the Geneva Declaration on Palestine adopted on 7 September 1983 by the International Conference on the Question of Palestine held under United Nations auspices.

In addition to Jordan, sponsors of the draft resolutions are: Bangladesh, Cuba, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Vietnam and Yugoslavia.

and the people under occupation. It is expected that the PNC will laud Jordan's role and King Hussein's services for the Palestinian cause. But it is also believed that the PNC will not give a definite answer on King Hussein's proposals last Thursday and will open the door for continued discussions on how the two sides could work together. The PLO has rejected and will continue to reject the UN Security Council Resolution 242 and will continue to regard the Fez resolutions as the only acceptable framework for peace with Israel.

GCC leaders discuss pact's defence

KUWAIT (AP) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and his five partners in the Gulf Arab alliance held secret talks here Wednesday on a collective military strategy for the defence of the oil-rich region against spillovers from the Iraq-Iran war.

Conference sources said the leaders were discussing means of bringing their armed forces under a unified high command and creating a two-brigade rapid deployment force to be stationed in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Attending the three-day summit conference which began Tuesday were King Fahd, Sultan Qaboos of Oman, and Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan of the UAE. Isa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa of Bahrain, Khalifa Bin Hamad Al-Thani of Qatar, and their host Jaber Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah of Kuwait.

They make up the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) a regional grouping designed to pursue economic integration and combined defence.

The six leaders have been reliably reported to be in agreement on boosting financial assistance to beef up defence capabilities in Bahrain and Oman, the comparatively poorer members of the alliance.

The two countries have been receiving a total of \$350 million annually, as part of a 1.8-billion dollar subsidy approved by the GCC summit in Bahrain two years ago.

Arab and Western analysts here noted that Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, the two GCC countries geographically closest to the Iraq-Iran battlefield, have been importing warplanes, missiles and other military hardware from the United States, Britain, France and other Western European countries. The Soviet Union and Brazil to overcome their evident vulnerability to the hazards of the 50-month-old Gulf war.

Students demonstrate in Gaza University

GAZA CITY, Occupied Gaza Strip (AP) — Students at the Islamic University in the occupied Gaza Strip shouted slogans in favour of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and burned an Israeli flag Wednesday, witnesses said.

The demonstration was conducted amid a campaign for student elections due to take place Thursday and also coincides with the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in Amman.

A Palestinian journalist said witnesses told him Israeli troops surrounded the university but withdrew when the students decided to end the protest and go home.

Military sources in Tel Aviv said there was a gathering of students which broke up without the intervention of Israeli troops.

Abu Nidal group suspected of Bombay killing

By Len Rockingham
Star London Correspondent

LONDON — The British authorities are taking seriously the claim by a group calling itself the Revolutionary Organization of Socialist Muslims that it assassinated the British Deputy High Commissioner in Bombay on Tuesday.

The group was last heard of in March when it claimed responsibility for the killing of a senior British Council official in Athens. It is believed to be identical or, at least, closely linked to the Damascus-based Palestinian faction of Abu Nidal.

Responsibility for Tuesday's killing was claimed in a telephone call made in Arabic to news agencies in Paris and London. The man, who said he was calling from Bucharest, said that a death sentence had been carried out on the deputy high commissioner, Mr Percy Norris, because the British government had not heeded previous warnings "to stop their aggressive attacks and to stop torturing the Mujahedin fighters". This is thought to be a reference to the imprisonment of three Arabs in London last year for the attempted murder of the Israeli ambassador, Shlomo Argov, in 1982 — an attack which was used as the pretext for the Israeli invasion of Southern Lebanon.

Abu Nidal, which is the nom de guerre of Sabri Al-Banna, a Jaffa-born schoolteacher, has been waging a murderous campaign against moderate Arab opinion since the mid-seventies. In one year alone, 1978, his group claimed responsibility for the deaths of the PLO representatives in London, Paris and Kuwait and two years ago murdered Mr Issam Sartawi, probably the most outspoken moderate official of the PLO. The killing of Mr Ken Whitty in March coincided with the visit of Queen Elizabeth to Jordan and Abu Nidal's group also claimed responsibility for bomb explosions in Amman just before the visit. Diplomatic sources in London do not rule out the fact that Mr Norris's murder in Bombay was timed to coincide with the Palestine National Council Meeting in Amman.

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King offers framework for joint action for peace

By Star Staff Writers

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein called for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative based on the principle of land for peace, to be launched by Jordan and the PLO to "liberate the land and the people." Thursday when he opened the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC).

The King's proposal was based on the UN Security Council resolution 242 to be applied in a UN-sponsored peace conference to be attended by all parties concerned to the conflict, on top of which the PLO and by the Security Council's five permanent members. His Majesty said that Jordan will not speak on behalf of the Palestinians and yet it will do anything else to help liberate the land and restore the rights. "The decision is yours," King Hussein said, as he made his proposal. He said if the PNC decided not to accept the Jordanian offer and work independently then Jordan will support the decision and will do its best to back the PLO.

The King said in his opening speech that "enough time has been wasted on disagreement, conflict and discrimination." He reviewed the history of the Palestinian-Jordanian relationship and the various stages that the Palestinian cause has passed through from 1950 to 1982.

The King said that "the international position at large is one that perceives that possibility of restoring the occupied territories through a Jordanian-Palestinian formula, which requires commitments from both our parties in considered by the world as necessary for the achievement of a just, balanced and peaceful settlement."

On the otherhand, PLO Chairman Mr Yasser Arafat told more than 3500 PNC members, guests and delegations that "the Palestinian people will not accept anywhere but Palestine for their homeland and will fight along with the Jordanian people to abort Israeli schemes to create a substitute homeland in Jordan."

He said that the convening of the PNC in Amman is seen as an indication of the continuation of the "Palestinian revolution" and the failure of the Israel-American plans of disregarding Palestinian people and their cause from the political scene in the Middle East.

He said that the PNC meeting reflects among a number of things that democracy exists in the Palestinian revolution and that the legitimate Palestinian institutions should be the only framework for settling differences of views.

The King's call and proposals were seriously studied and discussed in all PNC sessions. Mr Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad), Deputy Commander of PLO forces said the PLO welcomed the joint Palestinian-Jordanian moves and joint Arab action. However, Mr Al Wazir said that the PLO stance from UN resolution-242 is



His Majesty King Hussein: New proposals

United Press Photo

clear and has not changed, as it does not measure up to the legitimate rights of the Palestinians since it refers to the Palestinians as refugees and denies them the right of statehood.

Also Mr Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad) senior member of the Central Committee of Fatah movement said "the PLO agrees in principle with the concept of joint Jordanian - Palestinian moves." He said such an initiative should not be far from the Fez Arab summit resolutions.

Mr Al Wazir said that King Hussein's proposal will be referred to the new PLO Executive Committee, which was expected to be elected on Wednesday. Officials said that the PLO does not feel that it should reply at this stage to the King's proposals since "there is nothing concrete offered by any party."

Jordan's Minister of Information said on Monday that the King did not propose a mere initiative but rather a plan of action in general terms.

On last Friday the PNC elected Sheikh Abdul Hamid Saeh as PNC's new speaker replacing the Damascus based Mr Khaled Al Fahoum in who was accused of violating the PNC statute by refusing to convene the Council.

The Social and Higher Education Affairs Committee presented a list of its recommendations to the Council on Tuesday. The Council took decisions to support institutions that take care of martyrs' families and prisoners of war in and outside the occupied territories. The Council will offer also scholarships for excelling

and its destruction means the destruction of the Palestinian resistance movement.

The report on the expressed desire to normalize relations with Syria, since it is a national duty stemming from the struggle against Israel, provided that the PLO keeps its independence.

Also the report called on the PNC to discuss the two issues: relations with Egypt and last year's visit of Mr Arafat to Cairo.

A strong Palestinian support was obvious on the return of Egypt to the Arab fold and on two basis, the report pointed out, first, assist Egypt to disconnect itself from the Camp David accords with Israel while the other is to work jointly for a united Arab stand to achieve their objective. The restoration of relations with Egypt among factors of dispute between PLO and other PLO factions. Furthermore, the report outlined that PLO has no hopes for a peaceful settlement under the American administration and Israeli coalition government.

The report supported the idea of convening an international peace conference in which all parties will participate including the Soviet Union, United States and the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Attending the conference besides, members of various factions were delegates from Iraq, Guinea, Lebanon, Yugoslavia, Spain, India, Portugal, Cyprus, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, France, Britain, Poland, East Germany, the Italian Communist and Socialist parties as well as participants from the Arab Lawyers Union and the National government of Syria.

The Jordanian delegation headed by Prime Minister, Ahmad Obeidat included, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, Ahmad Al Lawzi and Speaker of the Lower House, Akef Al Fayez.

The opening session was attended by about 3,500 people. About 500 journalists representing almost all international news agencies, TV networks and newspapers were in Amman to cover this historical event.

The Financial report was presented to the PNC by Dr Hanna Nasir, president of the Palestinian National Fund (PNF). The list of revenues and expenditures for the year 1983-84 indicates an imbalance between revenues and expenditures, thereby showing a JD 12 million deficit. The PNF resources are from liberation tax and the financial support received from Arab countries. The collections towards liberation tax reached JD 7.5 million, most of which was collected from the Palestinians working in the Gulf countries, Kuwait, Abu Dhabi and Qatar. However, the money raised in Libya during the past two years has not been included in the PNF revenues. Moreover, the contribution from the Gulf states are declining in view of the current economic recession.

Symposium studies children's rights and problems

By Kathy Kakish
Star Staff Writer

one of the key issues to be represented by ICJH in its final report in 1986," he said.

AMMAN — How much has been achieved in implementing the rights of children and to what extent are children being abused worldwide? Although such questions are too wide to tackle within the span of a three-day gathering, participants of the International Symposium on the Protection of Children (ISPC) said in Amman, felt it better to focus their discussions on four issues only: Street children, children and armed conflicts, the interstate displacement of children in addition to the draft Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Concluded on Monday 26 November at the King Hussein Medical Centre, the symposium was organized jointly by the Geneva-based Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues (ICJH), and Radda Barnen, Swedish Save the Children Organization. Some 60 participants and observers from ICJH, Radda Barnen and other non-governmental organizations concerned with the welfare, rights and problems of children, gathered to pinpoint the means and ways to curb the problems children face in the four issues as well as to enhance their rights.

"These are burning issues, which were felt to be best discussed by what has been described as 'the lobby of the powerless', or the non-governmental organizations and bodies, such as ICJH," His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan told the Star during the opening day of the symposium. Prince Hassan, ICJH co-chairman, along with Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, had suggested the convening of such a symposium.

"Children have no voice and consequently, we are trying to voice their questions of concern and to bring the burning issues to the mind of the general public and of policymakers," the Crown Prince said.

"The last question we are discussing, of course, is the draft Convention on the Rights of the Child, and at that sense we are involved in a medium-termed legal work, which we hope will be

der, illuminating issues of poverty and attempting to create a balance between resources and population. This can prove to be quite impossible, the work group report said.

The working group recommendations suggest that ICJH should seek to build a new consensus against war itself, with the backup coming from strong religious and political philosophies to ensure the steering of public opinion. The need to investigate into the reasons behind non-compliance with international humanitarian law and to include the teaching of such duties within training programmes for armed forces and agencies involved in national defence and civil protection, are other aspects required. The working group also recommended that ICJH should promote action-oriented research to assist fieldworkers in developing the most effective on-the-spot programmes to meet the needs of children involved in war.

Two topics were dealt with each day as participants formed two working groups.

Approximately 35 participants went into the psychological and physical ramifications inflicted upon children caught in the middle of the elders' armed conflicts. In a speech delivered at the opening session, by Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, ICJH co-chairman, said that since World War II, there have been 54 state and 73 civil armed conflicts, with increasingly devastating effects on civilians. "According to one estimate, civilians comprised five per cent of World War I casualties, 50 per cent in World War II, 80-90 per cent in the Vietnam War, and in the on-going Lebanese conflict 97 per cent," he said. Children, naturally, are primary victims.

But what about children who fall victim to acts deliberately carried out against them and what about those who are encouraged and even forced to take part in hostilities? These are but some of the questions the working group sought solutions for.

This particular working group was careful in showing any wishful optimism where curbing war effects on children was concerned as the idea of "the child as soldier" possibly might become the reflection of our time. It is expected that by the year 2000, half of the world's population will be under the age of 25, with a good 70 per cent in developing countries. The population increase will not be balanced with job, income, and education growths, thus encouraging, if not becoming a direct cause for conflicts.

To turn the youth — the adults of the future — to the way of peace can only be achieved by uprooting the present world or-

quite impossible to estimate the alarming number of children who — for various reasons including adoption schemes, "sale and trafficking", exploitation of labour and abduction by parent — are being sent to a foreign country against their will.

The working group agreed to focus on the sale and traffic of children, the negative aspects and abuse of international adoption as two major forms of interstate children displacement.

Yet the concept of the sale traffic of children has not been fully explored since "the absence of information is one of the major obstacles in dealing with such an issue."

It was due to the lack of such concrete data that the working group was incapable of setting other than general recommendations with the hope that they could lead to the documentation of proper information and surveys, and thus, get to the heart of the problem.

Contrary to this particular working group, the one dealing with the issue of street children did have abundant information concerning the problem, causes and attempted solutions for the estimated 80 million street children worldwide, out of which some 70 million are scattered in underdeveloped countries.

Poverty, unplanned urban growth, migration from rural to urban areas in addition to abandonment, broken families and exploitation top the list of causes behind the growing number of

interstate displacement of children was another issue the symposium participants saw the need to discuss. Yet, it remains

children and young people who are living on their own on the fringes of urban society.

The 35 member group focused on the ways and means to tackle this problem. The group stressed the importance of learning from the experiences and lessons from projects presently going on internationally for curbing this problem. It also feels that the issue of street children should by all means be included in programmes for the upcoming International Year of the Youth in 1985 and the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless in 1987.

Basing its conclusions on the documented material available, the group believes that attention should be paid to the needs of children, the strengthening of their identity, the insertion of flexible education programmes for self-confidence building in addition to programmes set to bring about changes in attitudes regarding family practices that negatively affect the family structure.

As the future Convention on the Rights of the Child will constitute a vital step ahead as the basis for the protection of the child worldwide, the working group assigned to tackle this issue came up with the suitable recommendations concerning universal participation, consultation, public awareness and education, the speeding-up of drafting process, implementation and reporting as well as on the compatibility of national and international legislation.

As the future Convention on the Rights of the Child will constitute a vital step ahead as the basis for the protection of the child worldwide, the working group assigned to tackle this issue came up with the suitable recommendations concerning universal participation, consultation, public awareness and education, the speeding-up of drafting process, implementation and reporting as well as on the compatibility of national and international legislation.

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Vaccination campaign successful and will continue, say officials

By Sawson Musallam
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The National Vaccination Week campaign, which started on Saturday, is gaining strength as the number of vaccinated children is increasing day after day.

Dr. Abdul Rahim Jalal from the Communicable Diseases Control Department at the Ministry of Health told The Star that the number of vaccinated children from different parts of the country came to 17805 on the first day. The next day it reached 24907. On Monday about 25000 children were vaccinated, and until last Tuesday almost 27000 others were vaccinated.

The campaign, organised by the Ministry of Health, aims at reaching all unvaccinated children. Children between 3 months and 5 years of age are to be given the triple vaccine against diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough) and tetanus (DPT) besides the polio vaccine.

Children between 9 months and three years old are being given shots against measles. All mother and child-care centres as well as health centres throughout the kingdom are to receive mothers and their children between 8 a.m. until 4 pm during this week and the coming weeks. All kinds of vaccines are offered by the ministry for free. Labour clinics



Dr. Kamel Ajlouni

and UNRWA centres are also helping the ministry to carry out this campaign.

Dr. Jalal said this effort is not going to stop even after the week has ended. He said that the ministry adopted this campaign in order to activate the vaccination process conducted throughout the year and make sure it is going on according to the ministry's plans and reaching all people in the country.

To achieve its aim of reaching every house in the country, the ministry is trying to make good use of available media. Doctors in various health centres are paying continuous visits to schools to vaccinate children and inform them of the importance of the process. Besides this, the ministry has formed 60 health teams who tour villages and remote communities where health centres are not available, calling

out for people to bring their children to be vaccinated.

Dr. Jalal said that the people so far have been responding quite well. Earlier this week Ministers of Health Dr. Kamel Ajlouni, stressed in a press conference the importance of preventive measures to protect the health of citizens in the country. He said parents should be aware of the fact that vaccination reduces the rate of diseases among children and start taking them to the nearest health centres.

Also at the press conference, Dr. Hani Shammout, head of the Communicable Diseases Control Dept., recommended that special vaccines be given to mothers especially with child, and whose age ranges between 15-45 years old in order to protect them and their babies from possible infection of diseases such as tetanus.

A recent study in Jordan, he said, shows that 220 children die yearly while still in their first month because of tetanus. Dr. Ajlouni said that 80-85 per cent of children in Jordan are vaccinated. "Unfortunately the figure reaches 75 per cent in Amman because of the difficulty of reaching to some children in the city," he said. In rural areas, on the other hand, the already vaccinated children make up 90 per cent of the children. By this campaign, the minister expects these rates to go up.

World Affairs Council to become a foundation

AMMAN (Star) — The World Affairs Council (WAC) is now making arrangements for the setting up of a cultural foundation under the name of Abdul Hamid Sharaf Foundation for Arab and world affairs. The foundation aims at bolstering relations with scientific, academic and cultural establishments as well as intellectuals throughout the world to enrich culture and serve the responsible Arab thinkers. It also aims at promoting thought, creating bridges for ideological dialogue and introducing Arab culture and civilization to other nations through all methods.

Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber, secretary of the council said that the need for intensifying ideological dialogue between the Arab peoples and those of the world initiated a group of Jordanians to start up a meeting place which will monitor Arab march within modern life so as to uncover obstacles hindering its progress.

The foundation, he said, will allow for the exchange of expertise between Arab countries as well as introducing contemporary issues to the peoples of the world to spread some interest among them.

Bolstering the conception of democracy in the Arab world as

well as respect to opposition and adopting scientific dialogue and method when dealing with political and social problems facing Arabs, will be among the foundation's aims.

Giving the name of the late Abdul Hamid Sharaf to this foundation Dr. Abu Jaber said is a recognition of his pioneering efforts in his capacity as one of the leading Arab thinkers on the international arena and in Jordan. "He was the first to understand the value of constructive dialogue in international relations", Dr. Abu Jaber said.

In order to set up this foundation, an independent fund has to be established to provide independent financing. And in order to preserve the independence of this foundation, it became imperative to submit this project to the Arabs and to request from them as individuals and corporations to back it up. Dr. Abu Jaber said.

For this purpose, a provisional committee was set up under Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali, president of the University of Jordan with Mrs. Laila Sharaf, the minister of Information and Zuhair Asfour, Ali Chaudour, Kamel Abu Jaber, Mahmoud El Sherif and Taher Hikmat as members.

Experts look at agricultural policies

By Maha Zabaneh
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The two-day conference on Policy Oriented Systems Analysis of the Agricultural Sectors of Jordan and Sudan, which ended here on Wednesday discussed research studies in the agricultural sector. It was organised and financed by Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation and the Arab Bank. Several papers were presented by researchers from Jordan and Sudan.

The conference was held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan who delivered a speech at the opening session explaining that the gap has widened between food production and consumption in the Arab countries. The necessity to lay down a comprehensive Arab policy for food security is no longer a wish but an urgent national necessity that has to be urgently achieved.

He said that the Arab political leaderships have adopted several resolutions on the road to economic integration, but that will not be sufficient unless scientific research will proceed and studies will be prepared to provide credibility to investors.

"The Arab future greatly depends on alternatives which we have to choose today. If confrontation continues on an individual basis Arab achievements will remain limited," he said.

"If we follow the road of integration and collective solidarity under which each Arab country will contribute to a national strategy at the level of its capabilities, the ability of each of us to surmount the problem of food deficit will multiply," the Crown Prince said.

Prince Hassan said that "the topic of this meeting is not vital to Jordan alone but to the rest of Arab countries. We all know about how much we produce and how much we consume and how the Arab countries have become



Prince Hassan

one of the biggest regions with food deficit problems in the world". He said "the Arab dependence on food imports is a source of worry to us and the ever increasing food bill is sounding the alarm requiring further attention from our side towards the cause behind this food deficit in the Arab countries."

He urged for the direction of Arab investments to the inside of the Arab countries indicating that such investments during last year did not exceed \$1 billion while in Europe they reached \$15 billion.

"Your conference is a step in the right direction," the Prince said.

Dr. Autwan Zahlan, research supervisor at the Foundation, said the Foundation is primarily interested in research and projects that have effect on development. The analysis of agricultural policies explains outstanding issues and cautions against anticipated crisis as it also supplies data and work methods options. The success of such studies depend greatly on the expertise of researchers and their intellect as it depends on the type of search for the skills to be acquired through participation in the decision-making process.

He said "conducting the researches required a large num-

ber of inventive and qualified researchers and we feel lucky that Arab experts in this field were available."

He said that Jordan, the Sudan and Syria have set up multi-specialised research teams from various establishments. This programme has created strong links among individuals with interest in agricultural systems.

In an interview with The Star, Professor Ian Carruthers from the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Jordan, said that modern farming is a multiple activity enterprise that requires massive finance that if combined with the fluctuating and declining relative incomes is the major factor contributing to a rural exodus. This migration creates further social problems in the places that the rural people leave and in the cities to which they flock. Policy analysis aims to examine practical options to cope with these problems, Prof. Carruthers said.

Agricultural policy studies were a relatively neglected area of research in many countries. But as the development process continued, agricultural policy questions would become more important and more difficult to evaluate, he said.

Since 1960, he said, the agricultural labour force in Jordan has dropped from 44 per cent to 20 per cent of the work force. The public sector considers a variety of objectives. However, Prof. Carruthers said that multiple objectives complicate the problem of policy formulation enormously. Since alongside the proliferation of goals for agricultural policy, there is an increase in the number of measures to be applied.

Some of these multiple objectives set up by agricultural policy makers are economic goals, food security, employment creation, fair incomes to farmers and occupational safety.

LIKE THE Conservative and Liberal Parties, the Social Democratic Party (SDP) was formed inside Parliament among sitting members, although only in 1981 and in the very different circumstances of universal suffrage. The founding MPs had all been elected as Labour members at the 1979 general election. They were joined by one who had been elected as a Conservative.

The SDP contested the 1983 election in alliance with the Liberal Party. The alliance secured the election of 17 Liberals and 6 Social Democrats, in a parliament of 650 members. Under the leadership of Dr David Owen MP, the SDP formed the more conservative wing of the alliance.

In a party so recently formed, there is not the background of concerted policy and attitudes as elsewhere. To some extent, therefore, the approach has to be assessed from the earlier records of the leading personalities.

David Owen had been foreign secretary from 1977 to 1979 in the Labour government when, after the Camp David Conference (1978), British policy became passive to American policy.

During his tenure of office, Britain voted against United Nations resolutions which reaffirmed the right of the Palestinians to self-determination and sovereignty; abstained on a General Assembly Resolution that UN organisations should co-

operate with the PLO in projects to improve the condition of the Palestinians; and abstained on a resolution dealing critically with Israeli practices in the occupied territories.

On 29 November 1978, which was designated by the General Assembly of the United Nations as a day of international solidarity with the people of Palestine (and is celebrated annually), Britain absented itself from the official gathering which was addressed by the Secretary General at UN headquarters in New York. When a Labour MP asked what steps British would take to commemorate the day, he received a monosyllabic "None" in reply.

The Exceptional Conflict

By David Watkins

Instalment 10

Continuing the serialisation of his pamphlet,

David Watkins looks at: The Social Democrats



David Owen

In September 1983, Owen attended a reception given at the

party's conference by the SDP Friends of Israel, where he was reported as saying that the party would adopt a flexible attitude to events in the Middle East and would formulate its policy as the situation developed in what he termed "the volatile region".

It was a skilful statement to a pro-Israeli audience, just a year after the massacre at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in Lebanon and with the subjugation of the occupied territories proceeding apace.

At the same reception, William Rodgers, another founder of the party and former Cabinet Minister in the Labour govern-

ment, was reported to have spoken "passionately" in support of Israel and to have declared "I shall remain a friend of Israel until my dying day".

Within the party, however, there were other views, and an SDP Middle East Council had been formed. Its formation was initially announced at the crowded public meeting held in Central Hall, Westminster, in July 1982, to demonstrate against the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

An SDP member in the audience asked through the chairman (the author of this series) if interested SDP members in the gathering would contact him with a view to forming a Middle East Council, and an impromptu meeting was duly held at the conclusion of the main proceedings.

In distinction from the situation in the other parties, the SDP Middle East Council co-operates openly with the SDP Friends of Israel, although both groups associate less closely with Arab and Israeli contacts. With such a short history, SDP policies, thinking and attitudes are less documented and less formulated than in the other parties.

In the next instalment, David Watkins will return to the global dimension of the Arab-Israeli conflict and ask, "Where now?"

Shultz sees equality, mutual respect

WASHINGTON — US Secretary of State Shultz, addressing reporters along with Iraqi Deputy Foreign Minister Aziz in an impromptu press conference at the State Department 26 November, said that the United States and Iraq "would proceed on the basis of equality and mutual respect."

"We have found in our discussions... that we have a great deal to talk about," Shultz said. Shultz also told reporters that the United States would remain neutral in the Iran-Iraq war, "but we are not neutral in the sense of wishing to see the war come to an end."

The secretary and foreign minister met the press shortly after it was announced that the two countries have resumed full diplomatic relations.

Following is an unofficial transcript of the Shultz-Aziz press conference in the State Department lobby:

Shultz (picked up moments after he began to speak): ... We're doing this in the United States because we think it serves our interests and we assume that Iraq feels the same way about it

so we can properly say that this occurs in the mutual interests of the United States and Iraq. And we proceed on the basis of equality and mutual respect.

We have found in our discussions, not only here today, but in other cities — in Paris, in New York, and elsewhere — that we have a great deal to talk about.

And certainly here today as we've touched on the establishment of diplomatic relations, but more than that, ranged around problems of the Middle East in particular and the Iran-Iraq war, we have seen that we have a great deal to gain from this exchange.

I might just say on a personal side, that it is for me not simply a question of the two countries establishing diplomatic relations, but a way of continuing on a, I hope, more frequent and broader scale the personal relationships that you and I have developed, because I have found you here, as well as in our prior discussions — I well remember your support for our 17 May agreement in Paris — to be a very stimulating and thoughtful

person. And so I look forward to our continuing conversations.

Mr. Minister, perhaps you would say a word. Aziz: Thank you, Mr. Secretary. Ladies and gentlemen, I am pleased that I am here in Washington, and I am pleased that we have succeeded in establishing full diplomatic relations between our two countries.

I feel satisfied about this visit. I had the honour this morning to meet His Excellency the Secretary of State, the Vice President and His Excellency the President. I had a cordial and fruitful and constructive exchange of views with the president. In that meeting I expressed the willingness of my country to establish cordial and fruitful relationship with the United States of America, based on the lines which the secretary kindly defined, equality, mutual respect and mutual cooperation.

As the secretary said, it is in the best interests of Iraq to have that kind of relationship with the United States of America, as it is in the interests of the United States to have such a relationship with my country.

I thank the secretary for the kind words he said about my person and my country and I can assure you that we will, in our future deliberations, work out — work together in the same atmosphere we did work in the past. And I think that the establishment of the relations between our two countries will create a better situation, a better climate for more constructive exchanges of views about bilateral and regional questions and about the questions of co-operation between our two countries.

I feel satisfied about my visit. And I hope that we might have in the future more occasions of meeting together. We look forward to the visit of American officials. I would be very happy to receive His Excellency, the Secretary in Baghdad to continue the constructive work which we started here in Washington.

PALESTINE IN BRIEF

Kachman found not guilty

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Kachman Yekutiell Gozovsky who had set fire to Arab cars and attempted to set fire to the offices of the East Jerusalem newspaper al-Fajr, has been found not guilty by the Israeli Court in East Jerusalem.

Kachman, Yehuda Richter, Levy Hazan and Meir Leibovitz who were accused of shooting at a bus carrying Arab workers in Ramallah in addition to other serious offences, have, however, been found guilty, but were sentenced to imprisonment ranging only from a year and a half to five years.

Police minister to respond to Kahane

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israeli High Court of Justice last week issued an order asking the Police Minister Haim Bar Lev and Inspector-General Aryeh Ivizan to explain why they would not allow Meir Kahane to visit the Arab village of Taiba.

The courts ruling means that the state attorney's office reply to the petition of Kahane has been deemed insufficient by the court.

1000 young residents lack work

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Mayor of Ashkelon, told Prime Minister, Shimon Peres last week that more than a thousand young residents of his town who have completed their military service are unemployed. Peres assured the mayor that the government has begun to deal with the problem of joblessness.

Israel is selling artillery

LONDON (AP) — Israel is now a major supplier of artillery to Central America and Far East countries and sells large-calibre ammunition to Switzerland and West Germany according to Jane's year book published last week.

Ata out with 376 dismissals

OCCUPIED HAIFA — The immediate closure of the Ata textile, concern was averted after the company's receivers submitted to the occupied Haifa District Court a list of 376 people to be dismissed from the Kiryat Ata and Kuranah plants — almost a third of the workforce. District Court Judge Eliezer Barr had warned that if the list were not forthcoming he would order Ata's closure.

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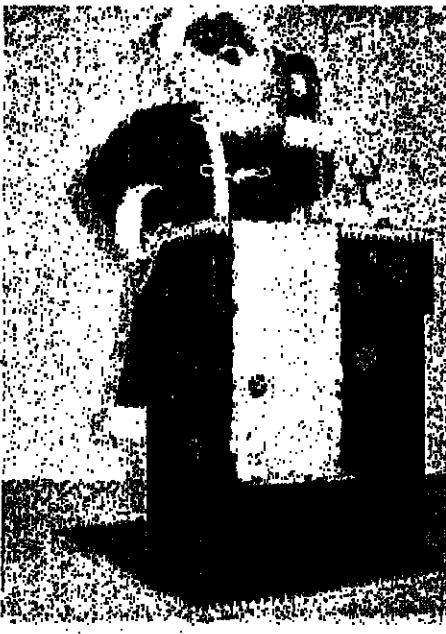
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International Day of Solidarity

Editor's note: Following is the message of President Muhammad Zia ul Haq on the occasion of International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people which coincides with 29 November, 1984.

ON THE occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people, the Government and people of Pakistan reaffirm their unwavering and firm commitment and support to the just and principled cause of their Palestinian brethren against the barbaric aggression and occupation of their territories by the Zionist authorities.

All efforts so far made by the international community to resolve the long-festering Palestinian problem have been frus-

trated by Israel's intransigence and total disregard for the universally accepted principles of international law. In fact, Israel continues to mock world opinion by relentlessly carrying out its expansionist policies to change the demographic and geographic character of the Palestinian and Arab territories under its illegal occupation.

It is the moral duty of the international community and, in particular, of the five permanent members of the Security Council

to redouble their efforts to prevent any further genocide of the Palestinian people and to put an end to the great injustice they have suffered during the past three decades.

Our sense of revulsion and indignation at the recent massacres of the Palestinians in Lebanon cannot be expressed in words. We declare our complete solidarity with our Palestinian brethren and we salute the indomitable courage and valour with which they have braved, and continued to brave, the ferocious Israeli onslaught against them.

On this solemn occasion, the

government and people of Pakistan reiterate their firm belief that there can be no durable peace in the Middle East unless a just solution is found to the Palestinian question. This is based on Israel's unconditional withdrawal from Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the restitution of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization. It also includes their right to the establishment of a state of their own. To mark this solemn occasion, special prayers will be offered all over Pakistan for the safe return of our Palestinian brethren to their homeland in peace and honour.

Abdel Halim confers with President Gemayel

BEIRUT — Vice President Abdel Halim Khaddam of Syria conferred with President Amin Gemayel and senior Muslim and Christian officials on plans to deploy the Lebanese Army in the Beirut area and along the coastal road all the way to the Israeli lines in southern Lebanon.

The deployment of the Lebanese Army in strength in and around the capital was to have begun earlier but was delayed until midnight Sunday 25th, an announcement said.

The state-controlled Beirut radio said the purpose of Mr Khaddam's talks with Mr Gemayel, which were held at the President's mountain resort at Bikfeya, 23 miles northeast of here, was to insure the political support needed to carry out the deployment.

In that respect, the most significant development was that Mr Khaddam brought with him Walid Junblatt, the Druze leader, who has expressed reservations about the plan.

Although Mr. Junblatt is a member of the seven-month-old Cabinet of national unity, he had not been attending government sessions, and the meeting was his first with the Christian President in almost two months.

While the discussions in Bikfeya were under way, Mr Junblatt's Druze followers traded artillery shells with the Lebanese army in the hills overlooking Beirut.

Rajiv assures support for the Palestinian cause

THE INDIAN Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi has sent a personal letter to Mr Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO on the eve of the meeting of the Palestinian National Council in Amman. Following is the full text of the letter—Editor.

The people of India have extended whole-hearted support to the just struggle of the Palestinian people even before we achieved independence in 1947. The successive governments of independent India have consistently supported the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people including their right to self-determination and a national homeland. The Palestine Liberation Organisation, under your leadership, has been waging an unceasing struggle for the realisation of its cherished objectives.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi used every available forum to express her solidarity with the Palestinian people and its sole and legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organisation. I take this opportunity to reiterate the continuing commitment of India and of the entire non-aligned movement to your just cause.

The 17th session of the Palestinian National Council meets at a crucial moment in the history of the Palestinian people. I am confident that as a result of the deliberations of this conference, the Palestinian people will come out more united, with their determination to pursue their struggle further strengthened. I wish the conference all success.

Reagan's policy options for the Third World



George Shultz

By Anthony J Hughes

NEW YORK — When President Reagan addressed a victory rally in Los Angeles, California, on election night, he was constantly interrupted by chants of "Four more years" from his enthusiastic supporters.

Commenting on the President's electoral slogan, Ted Smith, president of the Agricultural Development Council, said, "That would seem to be a mandate for continuity, for more of the same conservative rhetoric and policies of the first term".

Observers expect relations with developing countries to reflect Reagan's ideological interests and his preoccupation with East-West rivalry.

Like all those with whom I spoke, Smith sees the Middle East and Central America as focal points of US strategic and political initiatives.

As for foreign aid, Smith expects Africa to be of special concern, not only for the United States but also for the rest of the economic assistance community.

With regard to Central America, Dick Clark of the Aspen Institute commented, "We can expect further efforts to bring

down the Nicaraguan government by any means other than direct military intervention.

"In El Salvador the administration will persevere with its option of helping the government to achieve a military victory against the guerrillas.

As a candidate, Reagan often found himself feuding with Democratic contender Walter F Mondale for the ideological middle ground. This pull to the centre had already been a factor during Reagan's first term, when he sometimes disappointed his right-wing supporters by moderating his conservative thinking to accord with political reality.

Part of that reality, Clark notes, was the composition of congress. While the Democrats controlled the House of Representatives, the Republican majority in the Senate was sometimes more liberal than the White House on foreign affairs.

The congressional elections this year have not fundamentally altered the complexion of the two chambers. Hence Congress has the ability and the potential to thwart the President, denying him funds for military or economic initiatives it disagrees with, for example.

Regarding aid policies, John Bresnan of the Asia society suggested that foreign assistance had been increasing during Reagan's first term, much of the rise being on the military side.

"It has been fairly easy for the President to get these increases out of Congress," Bresnan noted.

In Africa, observers expect the Sudan to receive a large share of aid, in spite of President Gaafar Numeiri's introduction of Sharia law and his alienation of the non-Muslim south.

The country is perceived as a bulwark against Muammar al

Qadhafi of Libya, one of the Reagan Administration's special enemies. And will also flow to Zaire, notwithstanding corruption and human rights violations, because President Mobutu Sese Seko has been a staunch ally. Other friends of the United States, such as Morocco, Kenya and Somalia — all of whom have military agreements with Washington — will be favoured with US economic and military co-operation.

Parallel with the World Bank's structural adjustment lending and its conditions, the United States is likely to use its aid more purposefully to foster private enterprise.

This was the thrust of President Reagan's Economic Policy Initiative, which he declared was to provide an additional US \$500 million for "economic policy reform" in Africa.

Although the necessary legislation was not passed before Congress closed for the elec-

Dr. Mehdi hopes that President Reagan will become, in his words "more aware of United States interests in the Middle East in his dealings with the region. I hope that he will be more willing to understand the needs of the Arab world, indeed, of the Third World in general".

tions, the administration will persevere with the policy. It involves support for privatization of state enterprises and the encouragement of free market systems.

During the election campaign, Mondale proposed a cooler US



Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi

relationship with the minority regime in South Africa, a toughening of US arms embargo against Pretoria, a possible ban on new US investment, even American support for a United Nations-sponsored boycott.

Now these options are out of the question. "We can certainly expect the maintenance of the policy of 'constructive engagement' between Washington and Pretoria," Dick Clark notes. He also believes there will be a redoubling of efforts to seek an accord for Namibian independence, always linked to the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola.

As for Asian policies, James Phillips of the Heritage Foundation expects the administration to seek detente in the Indian sub-continent, particularly in view of the strain situation resulting from the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

He believes that President Reagan will seek to build better relations with New Delhi, without upsetting the existing ties with Pakistan. The latter may be particularly delicate, because Washington will be putting pressure on Pakistan not to pursue its development of a nuclear weapon capability.



Dr. Mohammed Mehdi

Bresnan agrees that the region will be a focus of Washington's attention. "Recent events in India provide a backdrop. In the light of these developments, we expect particular attention to be paid to relations with Pakistan.

"The stability of the sub-continent and the state of Indo-Pakistan relations are of special concern to the United States. I also believe that the Philippines will be a priority, because of the state of its economy, its political situation, its status as an old friend and the existence of US bases on its soil," Bresnan added.

Turning to the Middle East, Phillips believes that in spite of the failure of the 1982 Reagan initiative, the President may make another bid for a comprehensive settlement, early in his second term.

Mohamed Mehdi, secretary of the US National Council of Islamic Affairs, hopes that President Reagan will become, in his words, "more aware of United States interests in the Middle East in his dealings with the region. I hope that he will be more willing to understand the needs of the Arab world and, indeed, of the Third World in general."

Compass News Features

Ethiopian famine received unmatched response



Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam

By John Tanner

OXFORD, England — It was shortly after 9 pm on a Tuesday in October when the phones started ringing and money began pouring into British charity offices at the rate of £175 (US \$220) per minute.

Within two weeks, £3.5 million (\$4.4 million) had been contributed to the famine victims of Ethiopia in a response that aid officials said was unmatched since the devastation of Kampuchea in the 1970s and the hunger in Biafra in the 1960s.

Britain's biggest charity, Ox-

fam, alone received £1 million (\$1.26 million in ten days), and the money is still flowing in. Why the sudden emotional response to a disaster that has been known for at least a year? The answer is: television.

A report of particular poignancy by the British Broadcasting Corporation's southern Africa correspondent, Michael Buerk, was aired on BBC-TV's nine o'clock news, a peak-hour programme regularly watched by some 10 million Britons, almost one in five of the population.

An Oxfam worker said, "I was here in the office immediately after the nine o'clock news went out and the phones just started ringing. It was amazing."

Although BBC-TV footage had gone out last July about hunger in Ethiopia, its impact was muted compared to Buerk's pitiless famine story and film of dying victims.

The difference in public response seemed to lie in the quality of the reports, the increase in coverage and the contrast between bumper grain harvests in Europe and the United States and the desperation in Africa.

"In terms of impact, the scenes were horrifying," said an Oxfam spokesperson. "Even the most hardened person would be hard put not to be moved by

these pictures. In aid agencies we are used to seeing those things, but to the public it is shocking and new."

In the same week as Buerk's report, two current affairs programmes, "Horizon" on BBC and "Bitter Harvest" on commercial television, reported on the need in Ethiopia for at least 60,000 tonnes of food aid every month while 30 million tonnes of grain lay surplus to requirement in the European Community.

The contrast, and the bureaucratic difficulties of shifting the food mountain to where it was needed were taken up by British newspapers. The British government, which with the United States, had effectively denied development aid to the Marxist government of Ethiopia, was stirred into action.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the foreign secretary, announced an extra 6,000 tonnes of food aid and £5 million (US \$6.3 million) from the aid budget for all the drought-stricken nations of Africa.

Aid officials believe all of this should have happened earlier. The last great famine in Ethiopia, when nearly 250,000 people starved to death, took place in 1973.

Crushing poverty (average GNP per person is US \$140),

continuing warfare, internally and against Somalia, which has taken 300,000 peasants from the land to fight, and persistent drought had long made a repeat of 1973 probable.

As long ago as last March, Ethiopia's Commissioner of Relief, Major Dawit Georgis, warned that more than 5 million people faced starvation. The response of the international community was to offer 125,000 tonnes of aid. Georgis had asked for 900,000 tonnes.

Similar appeals from Eritrean and Tigre "liberation forces," who claim to control up to 85 per cent of territory in the north of Ethiopia, also went largely unheeded.

So why did the BBC decide on that particular Tuesday at the end of October that starving people in a faraway country in Africa were news? The BBC will only cite "normal editorial priorities." The fact is that television coverage of the Third World is scanty. There are two television correspondents covering the whole of South America for Britain. There is one BBC television reporter for Africa.

Michael Buerk is the "southern Africa" correspondent. Even those with the haziest geographical sense will have noticed

that Ethiopia is in the north of the continent.

If Oxfam had not urged Buerk to go to Ethiopia, the story may never have broken in the way it did and hundreds of thousands, who will probably now receive supplies, would have died.

It seems that a disaster is only really a disaster if it appears on prime-time television. "The ethics and philosophy of television news become very difficult to talk about," insisted the spokesperson for the BBC.

But Oxfam argues, "The Ethiopia famine wasn't invented on that Tuesday night. When the media moves on to other issues, the public may lose interest. Maybe it is time to start looking at those ethics and philosophy."

The aid agencies are worrying already about new famines building up in Chad, Sudan and Bangladesh. In the Darfour district of southern Sudan 80 per cent of crops have failed. In Bangladesh the harvest is being washed away by floodwaters.

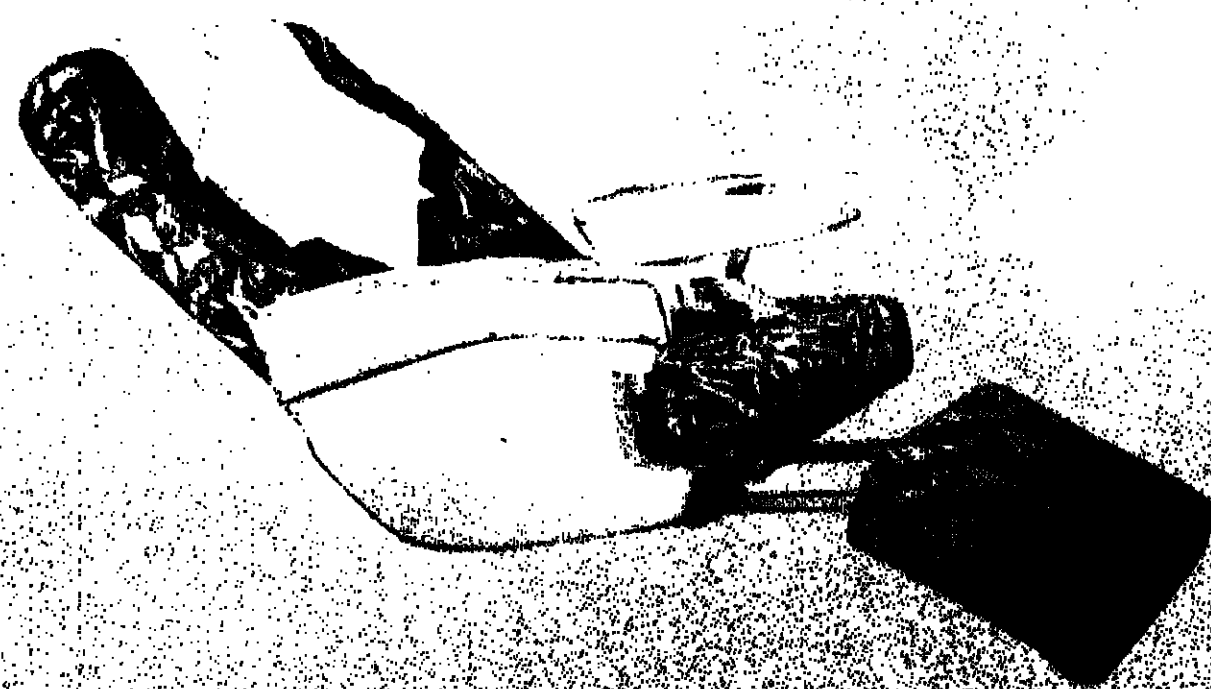
However, run-of-the-mill famines do not claim peak-time television exposure, and charities will have to rely on regular supporters who contribute whether or not there is a headline-grabbing disaster.

Compass News Features

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world

US pursues aggressive tactic at UN



By Alec Collet
Star UN Correspondent

NEW YORK — The United States has decided to fight aggressively for votes it considers important for its policy objectives, and this strategy is already seen to be paying off in the first weeks of the General Assembly session.

An inevitable concomitant of the policy the Americans have restored to — and no new experience for developing countries — is the twisting of arms to secure votes where these are considered vital for ideological or political reasons.

A US policy document outlines what are termed "Five policy priorities for USG (United States Government) conduct of multilateral affairs". Listed as "Priority 1" is: "Reassert American leadership in international forums".

Two striking examples of the successful implementation of this strategy have occurred in the past month. But other attempts at seizing the initiative or of imposing US "leadership" have met signal failure.

However, the two successes are noteworthy political achievements in environments considered inherently hostile. They concerned Central American and collaboration with South Africa.

It is interesting that in these cases the "arm twisting" was not attempted at the United Nations but in the capitals of the countries which Washington felt needed to be influenced. In the past the United States Mission to the UN has tried to pressure permanent representatives of states accredited to the organisation to vote according to American beliefs.

Sometimes this approach has been combined with a direct telephone call to the head of state placed by a senior official in Washington.

In the decolonisation or Assembly's Fourth Commission on 26 October, the US succeeded in turning back a move to have the United States and Israel named for military collaboration with South Africa and, in a second resolution, for their nuclear cooperation with the apartheid regime.



United Nations seminar in session at UN Headquarters

This was accomplished through amendments introduced by the US representative. In the first, committee adopted by a recorded vote of 62 to 47, with 24 abstentions, an amendment to delete a specific reference to the United States and Israel in the committee's condemnation of military collaboration with South Africa.

In the second amendment, the committee decided by a 62-47 recorded vote, with 25 abstentions to delete references to the US and Israel in its condemnation of nuclear cooperation with South Africa.

The vote took place, it is understood, after intense diplomatic activity in the African capitals in particular.

The result was that only 14 African countries voted against the American-sponsored amendments. Two frontline states, Botswana and Mozambique, abstained.

Nine African states abstained. However, 13 African countries presumably could not face the music and absented themselves from the chamber; the rest supported the US amendments.

Jordan was among a solid 15-member Arab group opposing the American amendments. But Egypt abstained, as did Oman, and Lebanon absented itself. One solitary weapon which has proved less than persuasive when wielded by the US in the past probably — due to timing — had more potent effect in the present situation. This was the strong arm of economic assistance.

Coming a week before a crucial General Assembly debate on the African economic crisis, American lobbying for votes possibly could not fail on this occasion.

What surprised many, however, was that with so many non-aligned countries opposing the US amendments, India, the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, abstained on both.

For different reasons, the circumstances surrounding the debate on Central America pro-

duced a far less dramatic outcome than was the case in the decolonisation committee. United States' tactics were equally fine-tuned and successful on the other hand.

There were two resolutions before delegates when the Assembly debated Central America at the end of October. One was adopted without a vote.

This was sponsored by the Contadora four — Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela — who have been working assiduously for nearly two years to forge an agreement for a peaceful resolution of the troubled Central American arena.

The resolution, bland and non-controversial, called for respect for the Contadora Act and speedy action by the five Central American states leading to an early signing of the Act. The Contadora Act is an agreement drawn up by the four for peace in the area among the five Central American countries: Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala and Costa Rica.

The second resolution, proposed by Nicaragua, was not pressed to a vote. A revised version of this would have invoked a 10 May 1984 World Court order relating to the mining of Nicaraguan ports which reaffirmed Nicaragua's right to sovereignty and called for an unconditional cessation of threats and hostile acts against the country. The International Court action followed a complaint against the United States by Nicaragua.

According to information, Latin American states were told by the US not to even consider voting on the Nicaraguan draft resolution. The fact that it was withdrawn without even being put to the test, attests to the effectiveness of American tactics.

Although, as pointed out earlier, American delegates have been on the offensive in a number of Assembly forums during the current session, their attempts at influencing or cajoling Third World representatives have been less marked. Efforts as a major US spokesman by Ambassador Alan "Jangling" Keyes

— a black American — on such subjects as varied as apartheid and UN budget assessments have been counter-productive.

On the subject of racism in South Africa, he has not only succeeded in alienating the entire African constituency among UN member states, but has created a hotbed of hostility among American blacks who have been exposed to his words.

American speakers have ranged over disarmament, self-determination, foreign investment in South Africa and expansion of conference facilities of the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa — which they oppose. They have not won any key votes, some would say they have not even won any debates.

But they do expound the strategy referred to above in the US paper: "Five policy priorities for USG (United States Government) conduct of multilateral affairs".

Nine proposals are listed under the "Priority 1" heading of reasserting American leadership in international forums. They include the early formulation of US policies and to gather support from like-minded states before meetings take place. They also call for clearly enunciated policies, the keeping of friends and allies fully informed and to deter adversaries who might act as a result of miscalculation.

Programmes that safeguard and develop democratic values are to be promoted as is the free market system. Coercive and undemocratic elements of "new international orders" are to be opposed, while issues such as human rights and budgetary restraints are to be encouraged.

Washington's hard line bothers Europe

By Nigel Hawkes

LONDON (ONS) — European governments have been alarmed by the latest US broadsides against Nicaragua. They fear that Washington may be close to talking itself into an outright invasion in order to topple the leftist Sandinista regime which has run Nicaragua since the overthrow of President Somoza in 1979.

Since Reagan was returned for a second term, the anti-Sandinista rhetoric has been turned up to full volume in Washington. A sudden rush of anonymous briefings, military manoeuvres, and claims — since shown to be false — that Nicaragua was about to take delivery of sophisticated MIG fighter aircraft have all increased the tension.

Europe's problem is that while it does not favour direct US military involvement in Nicaragua, it has little to offer as an alternative but support of the Contadora peace process launched by Venezuela, Mexico, Panama, and Colombia. And the US, while publicly supporting the process, has done little to help it and privately believes that Nicaragua cannot be trusted to adhere to the Contadora provisions anyway.

In the early years of the Sandinista government, many European politicians tried to warn Managua's leaders of the dangers they faced by alienating the US. Clear evidence of this is provided in papers seized after the US invasion of Grenada, which report on meetings of the Socialist International attended by Grenadan observers.

In June 1981, for example, at a meeting held in Managua, two leaders of the SI, former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, and Felipe Gonzales, head of the Spanish Socialist Party and now Prime Minister of Spain, had urged the Sandinistas to move in a more moderate direction. They suggested that Nicaragua should distance itself more from the USSR and Cuba, reduce the Cuban presence in the country and encourage political pluralism.

According to an account of the meeting written by a Cuban and found in the Grenadan files by the Americans after the invasion, Gonzales and Andres Perez warned that the American threats were designed to harass Nicaragua, driving it into a more radical position and thus providing the pretext for military aggression. Both warned that the Sandinistas were already falling into this trap.

But their warnings, and those issued by other senior figures in the SI, including Willy Brandt of West Germany and Olof Palme of Sweden, had little effect. Nicaragua has, if anything, moved even closer to Cuba and the USSR, establishing the apparatus of a communist state, and its token bows towards political pluralism (including the recent election) have been unconvincing.

VIEWPOINT

The last bid for peace

By Ya'coub Jaber

IN HIS speech before the Palestine National Council (PNC) last Thursday, King Hussein proposed a joint Jordanian-Palestinian peace formula for future action to solve the Middle East problem on the basis of UN resolutions.

King Hussein's remark, it seems, was not meant that the two sides should launch a new peace initiative but rather work together in a bid to reach a settlement within the framework of an international conference which both Jordan and the PLO see as an essential step if a balanced durable peace is to be achieved.

Regardless of what the PNC might decide, it is almost certain new that a joint Jordanian-Palestinian effort will be the main feature of the forthcoming stage in Middle East diplomacy. It will probably be launched once the Palestinian house in back in order and the legitimacy of the PLO leadership is fully re-established.

The success of the joint endeavour will depend, among other things, on the extent of Arab backing and on the response of the United States and Israel. The majority of Arab states are expected to give maximum support for a co-ordinated Jordanian-Palestinian approach that can serve as the basis for a world-wide Arab peace campaign. But what about the Americans and their Israeli allies?

The initial Israeli reaction to the King's speech at the PNC was negative and that was no surprise. Washington, in the meantime, is maintaining silence and is not expected to air its views at this early stage. But sooner or later, the US will have to spell out what it really thinks about could be fairly described as the last opportunity to solve the Middle East crisis by peaceful means.

Washington's response is important, especially as the Reagan administration in its second term can be in a position to forcibly influence an economically-weak Israel. If a peaceful solution for the Arab-Israeli dispute is ever to be reached, it should be worked out during the next four years.

In the process of formulating its response to the prospective Arab-backed Jordanian-Palestinian effort, the US administration can reach better conclusion if it takes into account the following facts. First: This joint effort will most probably be the last peace bid and therefore it should not be allowed to fail. Its failure will give vent for the rising of extremism on both sides with the inevitable emergence of a situation too complicated to be controlled. US interests in the Middle East will be prime targets for extremist groups who will take advantage of continued US vacillation and indecisiveness.

Secondly: America and Israel make a grave mistake if they continue to wage on Arab weakness and disunity. Israel's military arrogance will eventually force the Arabs to take collective steps to confront the humiliating Zionist challenge and continued US negligence of their rights. In the meantime, the rest of the world is expected to show more understanding towards the Arab cause if Israel, backed by an adamant US administration, continues to ignore Palestinian rights.

Thirdly: Egypt's final stand will be finally decided by the nature of the next US moves and their outcome. Cairo cannot be expected to maintain commitment to the peace treaty in the face of continued Israeli intransigence and US unwillingness to act.

Middle East Editorial Opinion

The convening of the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman is the main topic tackled by The Arab Press this week.

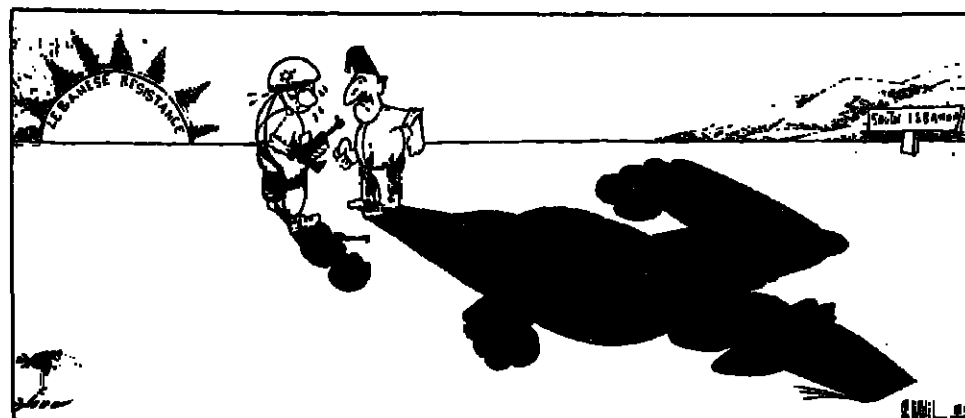
Al-Jazira, a Saudi newspaper, says the holding of the PNC meeting is a reunion of the Palestinian family after more than a year of unjustified suspension. It notes that by agreeing to meet, Palestinian leaders has in effect foiled a major conspiracy against the cause of the Palestinian people and their legitimate rights.

"The national will of the Palestinian people has triumphed again; the conspiracy has been foiled and the disputes have been overcome." The Saudi paper remarks.

Okaz, another Saudi newspaper warns that the absence of a unified Palestinian decision, added to the escalation of the Zionist offensive, could abort many of the achievements realized by the PLO throughout stages of difficult struggle.

It says the Palestinian, need now to unify their ranks, bolster the legitimacy of their leadership and come up with common decisions in order to convince the world that their cause is one of national resistance and not an issue of rival factions.

Al-Thawra the Iraqi newspaper says the convening of the PNC session in Amman is a victory for the Palestinian legitimacy.



It further warns against the consequences of setting up another PLO or even threatening to do so because the liberation of Palestine can be accomplished through agreement among all PLO factions on the PLO unity and its armed struggle.

Gulf Times, the Qatari English daily praises King Hussein's proposal for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative to solve the Middle East crisis. It expresses the hope that the proposal would meet positive Arab and Muslim response because it is the only way to realize Palestinian rights and break the present stalemate.

A US-Israeli refusal of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative to solve the Middle East crisis. It says that if the US and Israel refuse the initiative, The Jordanians and Palestinians will resort to other options.

"The initiative put forward by King Hussein to the PNC does not mean capitulation but it is rather an attempt to regain Arab rights through political means. The other options in the long struggle for freedom remain open to both sides all the time," writes Al-Ra'i.

Israeli Press

The Jerusalem-based Al-Shab comments on the PNC being held in Amman. "We request from the PNC to review the last twenty year's event and developments, and we do not request from them to look into the coming 20 years because this will be pathetic. We do not ask you to hold the coming session in Jerusalem because our sons do not dream and we do not want our people to think that they were taken lightly."

"We only hope for you to find someone to take you in your coming session because you may find yourselves in Malta. Jerusalem is so close to you but still it is too far away."

"We appeal to you in the first place to get closer together and reach an agreement with our brother, Jordan on anything that may alleviate occupation and reinstate just rights to their owners."

Haolam Haze reports that so far the official Israeli attitude was not to negotiate with the PLO despite the fact that there were incidents when Israel did contact the PLO on occasions like the ceasefire on the Lebanese border and the release of POWs.

Now while the PNC is meeting in Amman, the Israeli coalition government has to reconsider its stand towards the PLO and towards the international conference on Middle East peace, the paper adds.

Kotereit Rashit says that with the PNC meeting in Amman, the division inside the PLO has become a reality that will reflect on the Palestinian national expression for years to come. Through their superficial remarks, the Israeli officials are trying to prove that there is no difference between Arafat camp and that of his adversaries.

The paper requests the Israeli prime minister to take a new initiative to test the Jordanian-Palestinian intentions, and adds we wish very much to hear Peres agree to holding an international conference in which all parties will take part including the PLO and the Soviet Union, without any preconditions.

Meanwhile, Al-Quds comments that despite all problems facing the holding of the 17th session of the PNC, the meeting in Amman proved that Jerusalem and Amman are not too far apart. The Palestinians in the occupied territories, for the first time in their lives, have been able to watch closely what Palestinian democracy and Palestinian legitimacy mean.

We have noticed through the meetings in Amman that there is no difference between the Chairman and the members and how the freedom of expression is secured. This situation made us believe that those who refused to go to Amman to take part in the meetings were wrong. Why didn't those who were concerned about division in the PLO attend?

Jordanian Press

The Jordanian newspapers welcome the holding of the PNC in Amman as a further step towards consolidating the special Jordanian-Palestinian relations.

Ad-Dustour daily writes that the political report submitted by the head of the PLO's political department, Mr. Farouk Kaddoumi has pointed to the importance of the Jordanian-Palestinian ties and the need to develop them in the interest of the two peoples.

"These facts gain further significance when the report, which is an official Palestinian document, asserts that the special relations between the two peoples are dictated by geographic, demographic and political considerations," Ad-Dustour remarks.

It goes on to say that the consolidation of these special ties is a joint responsibility for both peoples who are bound by common destiny and aspirations who constitute one family living on both sides of the river.

Al-Ra'i newspaper raises the question of



The state of Israeli-Egyptian relations

and the independent Palestinian decision.

It expresses the hope that PNC members would adopt decisive decisions enabling the PLO to reactivate the Palestinian institutions and escalate the struggle against Israel inside the occupied territories.

The Iraqi paper also calls on the PNC to take practical measures to safeguard the Palestinian national unity and to foil any attempt to cause a split in the PLO ranks.

Al-Raya a Qatar newspaper writes that the convening of the PNC session is a pan-Arab question of paramount importance because the PLO is the sole legitimate challenge and continued US negligence of their rights. In the meantime, the rest of the world is expected to show more understanding towards the Arab cause if Israel, backed by an adamant US administration, continues to ignore Palestinian rights.

Thirdly: Egypt's final stand will be finally decided by the nature of the next US moves and their outcome. Cairo cannot be expected to maintain commitment to the peace treaty in the face of continued Israeli intransigence and US unwillingness to act.



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Israel and the PNC

ISRAELI REACTIONS to the convening of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman this week and the new approaches that are being studied by the participants, reflect once more and in a clear way the real and unchanging positions of the Israeli political parties and governments.

The Israeli rejection of any contact with the PLO or with any other party on the future of the occupied Arab territories proves beyond doubt that all of Israel's so-called political, liberal or conservative, movements meet and agree on one thing — one main thing — and that is their absolute refusal to return to the pre-1967 war boundaries, to accept the notion of an independent Palestinian state and to freeze and then dismantle the tens of illegal settlements that various governments have built on the Arab lands violating the international laws and UN conventions.

It is wrong, in our opinion, to wait for the Palestinians to make compromises and offer solutions which will damage their natural rights as a nation. It is wrong to expect major reconciliatory steps to be adopted by the PNC in Amman as if the Palestinians are the ones who have the lands, the armies and arsenals and the settlements. It is naive also to think that the ball is in Mr Arafat's court and that he and his movement have the keys to easy and fast solutions to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The world's eyes should not focus on the PLO's next move, but on Israel's intransigence positions ever since it forced itself on this region's peoples and communities. The world should not forget that it is Israel that has violated every single code, law or convention on earth and not the Palestinians. The world must not forget that it is Israel which occupied land that did not belong to it, usurped the rights of whole nation and committed crimes that history will never forget nor will the victims.

The fact that peace is missing in the Middle East and that the rights of the Palestinians have not yet been restored does not mean that solutions are missing or that the Palestinians and the Arabs are against peace. The fact is as clear as the sun and is seen in Israel's daily and systematic uprooting of Palestinians under occupation, the closure of their universities and their educational institutions and the blatant violations and rejections of all resolutions and laws made by the world's highest councils and courts.

The PNC meeting in Amman is not expected to make concessions to Israel nor compromise on its legitimate rights, but to reiterate its willingness to search for peace and restore the rights of their people. Israel on the other hand is the party that must stand before the whole world and testify to its crimes and aggressions.

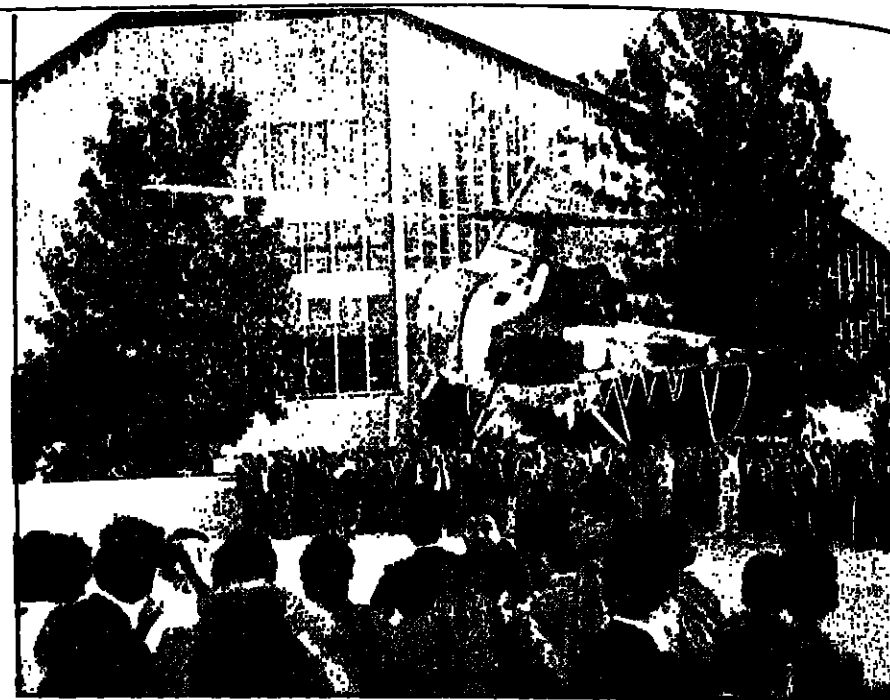
Britain and the Unesco

THE UNITED Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), seems to be heading towards collapse or be run by the eastern bloc countries and the Third World. Britain, which was instrumental in the setting up of this noble organisation, following the steps of the United States, has decided to pull out from it by the end of next year. The British decision is part of its austerity measures on overseas spending, but in fact, is the result of the charges framed by the US of mismanagement and politicization of the organisation.

It is now doubtful, whether other European countries would also follow suit, as it is most likely to happen. In that event, the organisation which has been constituted to construct defences of peace in the minds of men, as Clement Attlee once said, would face either liquidation or emerge undernourished.

The presence of the developed nations in the UNESCO is not only vital because of their financial assistance but for their advanced technical and scientific co-operation. The beneficiaries of their presence are the developing Third World rather than the developed and industrialised nations. Therefore, founders like Britain has the obligation to stay in the UNESCO at least for the sake of the Commonwealth countries which it heads.

Britain should, therefore, reconsider its decision and stay in the organisation to get the reforms carried out and run the prestigious organisation for the purposes it was constituted, instead of quitting it just for manageable mismanagements.



Why keep the press out?

By Star Staff Writer

FOR A chain of unsatisfied reasons over 200 journalists representing Jordanian, Arab and foreign media were not allowed into the Palace of Culture on Thursday to cover the opening ceremony of the Palestine National Council (PNC). According to officials the auditorium was packed with representatives, guests and attending delegations and there were no room left in the hall to allow the press in. The result to many was catastrophic.

We in the reporting business know very well what time means especially when covering important and historical events like the PNC session. Time is even more important for foreign press representatives who have to meet tight deadlines to file to their newspapers and TV stations and agencies around the world. This is particularly annoying to them when they already travelled thousands of miles to cover this event and had arranged with their various media to send their files in accordance with the schedules and organizational plans that they were given by the PNC organizers before hand.

But when the reporters comply with such plans and prepare for what they came to Amman to do by following all the details,

passing through all the security checks and waiting in the cold for the magic moment when they will be allowed into the auditorium and then this doesn't happen, this they would have all the reasons to feel angry and mad.

It is obvious that whoever was responsible for organizing the seating plan, press arrangements and schedules did not do a good job of it. We realize that but minute disruptions of such plans would also disrupt other arrangements, but this could have been handled wisely by the organizers if they reacted sooner and told the press what was happening. Many would have stayed in their hotels close to their telephones and re-adjusted their strategies accordingly, especially the foreign press. But none of this happened. Instead the media, once again had to improvise and find TV sets and radio transmitters to get the information they wanted.

What happened on Thursday is unfortunate and should not pass without officials realizing how major was their blunder and what damage they caused. There is no point in having this large convention of journalists and not giving them the chance to do what they came to Amman to do.

letters

Fascism has no future

To the editor:

I WAS very disappointed when I read Mr Ahmad Al-Anani's article "The price of wisdom" (The Star 22 November).

I think his assertion that there is a Christian-Zionist conspiracy aiming at uprooting the Muslim existence is very wrong and although Mr Anani may be entitled privately to such naive beliefs, his remarks, which are totally unjustified should not have been published.

Zionism is a political movement related to European fascism. Islam, Christianity and Judaism are faiths. The majority of their adherents are honest people, who are against Zionism and all forms of fascism and who are ready sometimes to fight and die for that cause. As an example, we can still remember the French commando woman who was recently killed by Israelis in battlefield with her Palestinian comrades. The actual misery of the Arab world is due to some extent to a combination of interest between the United States as a big power, not as a Christian power, the Zionists in the Palestine and some Arab authoritarian regimes that are interested in keeping the status quo in this area.

As a Christian married to a Muslim I resent very much the gloomy remarks of Mr Anani. The future doesn't belong to fascism, but to those who believe in good and humanity and people of good will, may they be Muslims, Christians or Jews.

MarieLuisa Saudi,
Amman

Destroying crops is a crime

To the editor:

MARKETING is the science and art of directing the flow of goods and services from producer to consumer or user. Many of the concepts and techniques employed in the discipline we call marketing are related to economics, social science, production, distribution and consumption.

To achieve more effective marketing results, there should be a well defined agricultural and industrial policy. The recent destruction of our tomato crops (The Star 22 November) has less to do with low prices and more to do with the lack of rational marketing methods and procedures. In a world fiercely invaded by hunger, thirst, and need, we should be more concerned about the preservation and conservation of our limited resources.

This is not the first time that our farmers have destroyed our tomato crops. Their act is both a civil and a criminal offence for which they should be brought to justice. Those accused are liable not only for the act they have committed, but for all the result that flows as a natural and probable consequence from it.

George N. Sals,
Amman

Kamel
Abu
Jaber



The Palestine National Council in Amman

Greetings to Jerusalem!

THE SEVENTEENTH session of the Palestine National Council is a significant and important one. That some of the Palestinian groups did not attend was regrettable though it did not diminish its significance. It is the first council to be held in Jordan after the 1970 clashes and thus can be viewed as a form of reconciliation, a healing of the wound. It is also significant because of the circumstances under which it was held, what with the ouster of the Palestine Liberation Organization from the Lebanon and its feud with Syria.

The sight of Mr Yasser Arafat and other PLO leaders in Amman, seated next to King Hussein and other Jordanian officials was also significant. For, underneath there was an undercurrent of tension; tension not because of the stamp of approval of the reconciliation that the council signified, but because of the mutual realization of both sides, indeed the whole world, of the implications of the meeting and the decisions that may emanate from it.

The form was good, heartening and encouraging. Here were the Palestinian leaders, surrounded by their Jordanian and Arab brethren and many world dignitaries and observers discussing and debating their affairs in a peaceful democratic fashion. After all this is the PLO, in Western eyes, a terror organization which according to them takes pleasure in violence for its own sake, not shooting or even shouting, but debating and balloting.

Under the circumstances, what with these men collecting from the four corners of the globe, lacking the procedural niceties of well established institutional representative bodies, even the procedure was encouraging. There was, here and there, some confusion, but there was debate and there was no violence. It was encouraging to see Shaikh Abdul Hamid Saeh, the oldman of the meeting being elected the oldman of the Palestinians.

Shaikh Saeh with his turban, following robes and white beard signifies all that is good in the Palestinians, indeed the Arabs. He is a good image that has substance and, while a charming man, he is an erudite, learned and intelligent person whose struggles for Palestine and Arab causes attest to a persevering nature. Under his guidance, personality, and image, the Palestine National Council will surely affect the reconciliation of the now alienated Palestinians as well as the reconciliation of the Palestinians with others.

The form was good but the content was also just as important. Palestinian leaders listened to each other and to King Hussein debating momentous questions. This was one of the rare moments in the life of the Arab nation where one of its major figures stands before a group and offers his ideas for debate and consideration, not imposition. His speech was not a blue print for action in as much as it was a working paper for discussion, elaboration and debate. It was straightforward thinking and logic devoid of rhetoric; a statesman's vision rather than a poet's dream.

It is hoped that this significant initiative by the King will receive due consideration. This is one time that all other interests, and side issues should be abandoned and attention focused on Palestine. It needs not be reiterated here that as far as the Israelis are concerned, the Palestine Question is finished and all that is left is what to do with the Palestinians or how to do away with them. It is from this angle, this vantage point, that Mr Sharon and the American Israeli Political Action Committee (AIPAC), put forth their slogan, indeed programme of action that "Jordan is Palestine," a historical falsehood and demographic geographic distortion, just as the King said, the decision may be postponed to future generations, but the responsibility is and will always remain ours. The world needs an answer.

Hunger and the world economic order

Henry Matar



"IT IS the worst famine in African history. Two vast belts of drought have spread across the continent, parching the land and starving its inhabitants. Nearly 30 countries are officially listed as hungry and some of them, whole populations are in danger of extinction."

This is how the "Newsweek" of 26 November, 1984 sums up the terrible situation that has developed in the continent as the result of the immediate cause of lack of rainfall and of a very severe drought that has hit a good part of the land.

The two vast belts of this drought referred to above in the quotation from the "Newsweek" include the one that swept the south-eastern stretch of African territory extending from Somalia down to Mozambique; and the other is its counterpart that has hit a wide tract of the big African Sahara extending from the western borders of Sudan through Chad in mid-Africa and westwards to include Mauritania on the Atlantic western-northerly coast, and taking in such belt bordering countries as Mali, the Niger and Bourkina Fasso formerly known as Upper Volta.

Just to give some more details about the enormity of the famine of Africa, the same issue of the "Newsweek" can help complete drawing the picture. According to this magazine's report almost the entire population of Mozambique — about 14 million — was on the move at this time of the year, searching for food. "From countless dead villages," dusty columns of lame gaunt Africans trudged through the bush, some of them already blinded by malnutrition and clinging to their neighbours, says the "Newsweek." Most of

these wandering people have been hungry for three years and have forgotten how it feels like to have a full belly.

Around 200,000 have been killed by starvation and still many more are expected to die. In Ethiopia, no fewer than 300,000 people have already perished. At Batia, in Ethiopia, there were around 3,000 before the UN sponsored relief-work aids came; on the first day it began to pour into the village, the number of beneficiaries suddenly jumped to 15,000, and the next day there were 25,000 — all of them hungry. They are still arriving with new relief food-stuffs.

In Mauritania, rainfall has become a forgotten luxury, more than three quarters of the grazing land has become heaps of sand dunes, and 90 per cent of the livestock died off. Now it is the people's turn to begin perishing from hunger. Nothing can better sum up the revolting misery of the whole situation than the words of Peter Onu, the Acting Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity. He says, "what we know is that millions of our people are starving and hundreds of thousands are dying because we are no longer able to provide our own staple."

In words, the reaction to this disaster is best illustrated by Tony Hall, an Ohio congressman who has returned from Ethiopia, where he eye-witnessed what is happening. "It is unconscionable," he said at a press conference, "that the people on the other side of the globe should die from starvation while mountains of food pile up in our silos and warehouses." Such statements and others have stimulated other responsive reactions in actual quick rendered relief.

In spite of political differences, exchange of open or implicit accusations, criticism of privately supplied relief, deficiencies of distributions owing to corrupt routine procedures and to the uncontrollability of such a tremendous task, and in spite of long-drawn arrangements to overcome difficulties of transport and steepness of road, the relief has generously been forthcoming into Ethiopia first from the USA and next the Soviet Union — both countries forgetting their differences and vying with each other over the quantity of relief offered.

Other hard hit African countries are, by and by, receiving relief and aid. Yet, however highly efficient and plentiful the currently-provided relief work might be, it amounts to no more than a temporarily ameliorating measure of relief. The roots of the problem will always remain there unless radical measures are taken to stop the division of the world into the Rich North and Poor South. The whole fault lies at the door of the currently prevalent world economic system.

In this way, even the agriculturally exported mainstay of the developing country will no longer be a profitable affair. Complete dependence of the loan-receiving party both at the agricultural and industrial levels will settle in. Bankruptcy of the poor south country, which results from the whole process, will incapacitate that country from doing anything to settle its loans, or what is more important to improve its economy.

Dependence increases, and no self-ability to face disasters shall exist. If anything is to be done to help the southern many out, it is the establishment of a new world economic order.

Memorandum

By Osama El-Sherif



Homo erectus and the PNC

WHILE PNC members were busily rearranging what was left of the hundreds if not thousands of pieces pertaining to their cause in preparation for the new approach they will choose to follow in search of their rights, Chinese archaeologists discovered yet another missing piece in man's own jumbled history: Complete skeleton of homo erectus believed to be at least 200,000 years old.

Now what is the significance of finding this ancient "thing" that anthropologists like to describe as the early man who managed to stand on his feet and face the world walking erect, is the business of historians, anthropologists and archaeologists. But what concerns us here is the fact that while some men search for the path that will lead to a better future, other men are up to their knees in dirt and rubble looking for bones that might point to a forgotten past, when such interesting primates managed to defy the rule and dared to stand up to the rest of the anthropoids.

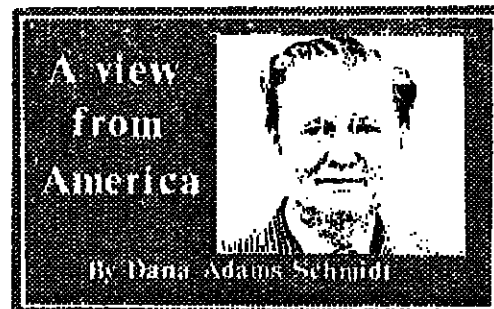
It is the man's inquisitiveness to look for answers that some may find unimportant or irrelevant to the present. But it is also a vital indicator to sociologists as they try to decipher man's actions and activities and attempt to predict his next moves. Will the homo sapiens of today try to blow up the world or will they act like the lower anthropoids (apes and monkeys) in unison and according to ancient traditions in keeping their species alive, strong and in power?

A clever observer will see no contradiction between PNC members reviewing the past experiences and bitter incidents and trying to establish a

modern strategy, and anthropologists investigating an ape-like skull and involving themselves in heated discussions to determine whether it belonged to a "homo habilis, homo erectus or a Neanderthal man." Both seek answers for hard questions and both are attempting to explain to us why things happened in the way they did. Both are trying to tell us something about our past, present and future.

But one must say what he or she thinks as right or possibly valid, if not probably correct. For as scientific circles in London, Paris and others are still debating whether "Australopithecus africanus" is the same as "Australopithecus robustus" or not, PNC members are also debating the merits of the Fez plan and the evils of 242. The result at the end is more questions — detailed ones this time and much different from the one that started it all in Greece thousands of years ago like "Who am I and where did I come from?" — and many possible answers each having its own set of evidence and proofs.

Does man today know more about his past, present and future than that of yesterday? Possibly, maybe and why not is my answer. I don't think that our Chinese friends will finish studying the piles of fossilized bones today or next week, but I wouldn't bet on clear-cut answers to come from them. As for the PNC they will not be expected to answer on the origin of man or the Darwinian theories. Their questions are harder since they are dealing with the living and not with those perished hundreds of millenniums ago.



A view from America
By Dana Adamou Schindler

WASHINGTON — Since the Ba'athist Party took power in Baghdad in 1968 Iraq has not been one of the United States' favorite countries in the Middle East. Even before that, since revolutionaries overthrew the monarchy in 1958 and turned Iraq against the anti-Soviet Baghdad Pact uniting Turkey, Iran and Iraq, this country based between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers has seemed hostile to the United States.

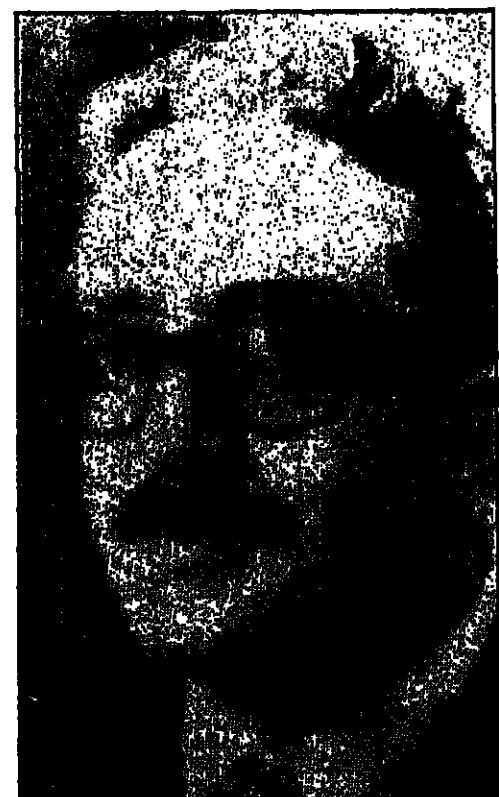
Baghdad fell out with the Kurds and beginning in 1962 fought a long bitter war against them. The Ba'athists came to terms with the Kurds for a while but finally routed them in 1975. The United States, which had covertly helped the Kurds, was not pleased.

Then came the Iraq-Iran war. The Iraqis had certainly been provocative and the United States, while no friend of Khomeini, was distressed. As this was dragged on inconclusively, it became apparent to thoughtful persons in Washington that the threat about which the US had to worry was that of the fundamentalist Muslims, the Shia of Iran. Even though the war settled down to a cruel stalemate and there seemed little danger of an Iranian breakthrough, danger lurked in the Ayatollah's ideology and aspirations.

Iran's fundamentalists were hard, ascetic, glorying in sacrifice and suffering. They despised Western civilization which they considered the foe of the Islamic way of life. Emancipation of women which seemed a virtue in the West was a sin to the fundamentalists. They banned alcohol. They condemned what they considered the sinful ways of the United States, and of the Soviet Union too.

Iraq-US relations improve after a decade of hostility

The extraordinary part of all this is that thinking on these lines began to catch on in other parts of the Arab world. Throughout the Gulf, and in Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries, steps were taken to tighten up observance of Islamic religious rules. The Shia, long regarded as a somewhat supine element in the populations of Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the other Gulf states, suddenly seemed a threat.



Tariq Aziz

Iraq, which had proudly avoided borrowing in the past, obtained half a billion dollars worth of credit from European banks. It asked its creditors to wait. And at last it began talking about resuming relations with the United States. President Saddam Hussein said he was willing to resume relations with the United States after the elections. Not for love. Not for mutual regard. But for mutual interest.

Meanwhile the United States was being helpful to Iraq. Last year it provided nearly \$1 billion in commodity credits to facilitate purchase of American agricultural products. The Export-Import Bank decided to guarantee 85 per cent of a \$570 million oil pipeline to bring to the Red Sea via Jordan. And the United States supported the UN Security Council in condemning Iranian attacks on neutral oil shipping tankers in the Gulf.

Iraq, which has a potential oil production second only to Saudi Arabia, had been cut off from its oil exports through the Gulf and through Syria. It had only one pipeline left, via Turkey to the Mediterranean. Its oil revenues were down to less than it takes to finance the war against Iran.

So the Iraqis needed help. On Monday, 26 November, Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz came to Washington to meet Secretary of State George Shultz and President Ronald Reagan and to assert willingness to resume relations with the United States.

The importance of this move is more psychological than practical. It implies that Iraq is willing to collaborate with the moderates of the Middle East, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt.



By Dr. Nabi El-Sharif

Harassment of West Bank universities

THE SHOW of support for the Palestine National Council (PNC) which was expressed by students at Bir Zeit University in the occupied West Bank led to an open confrontation with the Israeli military. It also resulted in the shooting of one student and in injuring several others. But the most damaging outcome of this popular show of solidarity is the decision by the Israeli authorities to close down Bir Zeit University indefinitely.

Israel, it seems, is looking for the slightest pretext to impose more restrictions on academic freedom in the West Bank.

The closure of Bir Zeit University was only the last action in a systematic campaign by the Israeli military and authorities, which is intended in the final analysis, to deprive Palestinian youths from the opportunities of advancement and improvement which higher education offers. This Zionist campaign is also meant to transform Palestinian youths into cheap labourers in Israeli farms and factories. Israel also realizes that it is extremely difficult, if not down right impossible, to either deceive or defeat an enlightened population.

The Israeli military ruler of the "Northern Sector" in occupied Palestine put it more clearly when he said: "It was a mistake on our part to grant Palestinian universities any permits to operate in the first place." To make up for its "mistake", Israel is making life extremely difficult for Palestinian academic institutions.

On his return from a seminar which was held in Abu-Dhabi to discuss issues for promoting the operation of journalism departments in Arab universities, Dr. Safwan Al-Tal, co-chairman of the Arab League told newsmen earlier this week that the Abu-Dhabi seminar focused its attention on the conditions of Arab universities in the West Bank, and called on world public opinion and international academic and democratic institutions to pressure Israel into removing restrictions placed on academic life in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. Dr. Al-Tal made special reference to the fact that faculty members in these Arab universities are always banned from participating in regional academic conferences which deprives them, naturally, from the opportunities of exchanging opinion and knowledge with their counterparts in other Arab or regional universities.

The closure of Bir Zeit University, then, is only the latest and the most outrageous violation of academic freedom in the occupied territories. Bir Zeit University in particular has been closed down several times during the past few years. During the academic year 1981-82 alone Bir Zeit University was closed down four times, one of them lasted more than seven months. Al-Najah University in Nablus has been closed down for three months now by military orders. Al-Khalil University fared better in the number of times it has been closed, but it has often been the scene of direct military aggression by some armed thugs from neighbouring Zionist settlements. Several students were killed and wounded two years ago when Zionist fanatic hoodlums opened fire at students in their classrooms. And only last week, the acting dean of the faculty of arts at the Islamic University of Gaza was gunned down by "unknown armed men" while he was on his way home after a busy day of academic activities.

I wish the world took England by its word and declared a real state of siege on the intrinsically minority of South African whites and coerced them to accept the minimum that is universally accepted as logical and human. The fact is clear as daylight that without British support in particular and some other formidable Western encouragement, the white minority in South Africa would have been less outspoken and more humble and humane. Yet, to say the truth, South-African racists are much needed as a camouflage for the unprecedented atrocities of Zionist Jews in Palestine. Hence Britain exploits its attitude towards South Africa to influence Anglo-American relations in general. The African blacks are being sold to Israel, which means in other words the USA, in the same way that Palestinian Arabs were sold in the forties of this century to the Israelis.

And yet they say the age of slavery is gone. Nevertheless slavery is by far less barbaric than the apartheid policies of the intruding minority of Europeans in South Africa and who is the real devil behind the whole row. They are they who have been advocating world peace and prosperity for the last four decades. And here lies the tragedy of being human. No animal or insect would ever preach something and do the contrary; but human beings do. But to where will all this hypocrisy lead to? To the destruction of human species. This may not take place in the foreseeable future but the offenders against world peace know better than any others that the continuation of their discriminatory and aggressive policies shall one day make a hell of this beautiful green earth.

Who lurks behind?

SOMETIMES, THINKING of man's historical development in terms of human rights would create a sort of indescribable despair. Just think of the headcase called South Africa and such repeated phrases as "solution of the question of Namibia" that are reminiscent of our Middle Eastern share of phrases like "until they (Palestinians) return to their homes and build up their independent state on their national soil," and many others. All such empty pieces of braggery are nowadays understood to mean nothing more than a trash. Neither Namibia got independence or self-determination nor has any Palestinian returned to build-up on his national soil whatever they say he would.

Those phrases happen to be the mode by the oppressors in this age for numbing the senses of their victims. Believe it or not as you may wish. When our Arab great grandfathers deviated from the ideal message of Islam and started to behave like imperialists they must have also used similar phraseology to keep their victims stable enough until their turn came for slaughter.

Now the British Empire to the United States of America holds the same maternal relationship as ancient Athens held to ancient Rome. The Americans imitate the British Empire's methods in the same way as the Romans walked in the footsteps of their Greek masters in the Mediterranean basin.

The term "Biggest Powers" exactly corresponds to "Biggest Liars". South-African natives and Arabs alike shall have to live on smooth words until they are ready to fight oppressors in the true way that changes the history of man; namely profuse sacrifice of blood where there shall be no calculation of results whatever they might be.

Neither the Arab-Islamic world nor the congregated power of black Africans are short of crushing to extinction the existence of the most reactionary regime of the small white minority in South Africa or the artificial society of so-called Israeli state in Palestine. But, when things come to a head, America establishes direct military bridges for air-lifted weaponry and men to fight Arabs and Britain swallows all her hypocrite words and throws away masks of broad humanity to defend its ally of South Africa.

As for the other ally of the Arabs, the Soviet Union would only turn hand to a place like Afghanistan. And each time a new morsel of Muslims is devoured by the intrinsically bear there is an excuse for the offender. The Soviets most impudently claim that it was Afghanistan that disturbed the water fountain. But those that have good memories well remember that East and West Turkistan, Azerbaijan, the Caucasus and many previously-Muslim states in strange coincidence had committed the very same offence of Afghanistan.

Now let those who speak be mad and those that listen to them be wise, as the Arabic proverb says. If Britain, France and the European community besides the United States of America and the whole Third World of Africa, South and Middle America and the whole of Asia are against the tiny three million Anglo-Dutch white minority in South Africa how does it happen that comparatively half advanced region of three million can defy all the blacks of Africa and all the world-wide nations.

THE JERUSALEM STAR

Finance, business & economy

Waste water plants construction to commence next year

Itsem Dababneh
Star Staff Writer



Saleh Kilani

AMMAN — The 11 wastewater treatment plants to be built in several regions in Jordan in the next two years will double the use of wastewater used in the country's agriculture, says Mr. Saleh Kilani, Director General of Water Authority (WA) in an interview with The Star.

Mr. Kilani explained that the treated waste water will be used for forage crops and afforestation projects in various governorates because they are the safest ways for using wastewater in agriculture. The total cost of the 11 projects will be around JD 25-30 million, one-third of this will be met from the WA budget while the rest will be arranged from various sources such as US AID, World Bank and the European Economic Community (EEC), he added.

Two wastewater treatment plant out of 11 to be built in the country are now under construction; one in Aqaba and the other in Irbid. Designs for the Irbid plant were carried out by the American consulting firm, Weston together with a local one. Mr. Kilani said that construction work on the Irbid plant began in the first quarter of 1984 by the

one in Ba'qa and the other in Wadi Seer in 1985, by a joint venture between Howard Humphreys and Mubarak & Toukan. Two plants will be built in Ma'an and Tafleh for which designs were made by a Jordanian consulting firm "Arab Tech" and an American firm "CH2M Hill."

For the proposed Madaba and Karak designs have been made by the Jordanian firm "CEC" and the American company "Black and Veatch." The remaining three plants will be constructed at Ma'raq, Ramtha and Kafra'eh. Designs for these projects have been completed by an American firm "Engineering Science" and a local one "Jowzy and Partners" in a joint venture. Mr. Kilani said that tenders for construction of all these nine plants will be issued in early 1985 and work is expected to be completed by the second half of 1986.

Another wastewater treatment plant on an area of 3000 dunum at Khirbet Samra with a total cost of JD 16,250,000 financed by the Water Authority, is now under construction. This plant will serve the whole city of Amman and all its suburbs like Zarqa and Russeifa.

Greek delegation calls on the Industry Minister

AMMAN — Minister of Trade, Industry and Tourism Dr. Jawad Al-Anani received in his office, Wednesday a 12-member Greek

trade delegation currently on a visit to Jordan and discussed with them bi-lateral matters pertaining to trade co-operation between the two countries. The delegation plans to meet the members of Amman Chamber of Industry today.

There is a demand of nearly 600-800 thousand tonnes of phosphate ore per year in the Greek market according to an official at the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC). The official added that Jordan Phosphate Company hopes to fill 40 per cent share of the Greek imports from phosphate material in future, bringing the quantity of phosphate exports to Greece to 250-300 tonnes per year.

In 1985, Greece is expected to import around 100,000 tonnes of Jordanian phosphate for a total value of JD 1,600,000 which marks an increase of 48 per cent from the years 1983-1985. In 1983, Greece imported only 53,200 tonnes of Jordanian phosphate. 82,200 tonnes out of 100,000 tonnes of phosphate were exported to Greece until the end of November 1984. And the balance 18,000 tonnes will be exported in December 1984, the official added.

The JPMC is at present exporting phosphate to three Greek companies. 40,000 tonnes of phosphate was exported to Greek company Hellenic Chemical Products for a total value of JD 570,000, under an agreement signed between JPMC and the company in 1984. Another Greek company "Chemical Industries of Northern Greece" imported 52,000 tonnes of phosphate of top quality under an agreement signed with JPMC in 1982 and in 1984 JPMC signed another agreement with this company to export another 50,000 tonnes of phosphate of top quality.

Swiss agrees on loan

By Maha Zabaneh
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — His Excellency Dr. Kurt Furgler, vice president of the Swiss Confederation and Minister of Public Economy, held talks in Amman on Monday with Jordanian Trade Ministry officials.

Dr. Furgler who was accompanied by a delegation including Mr. Elias Attia, secretary general of the Swiss-Arab Chamber of Commerce, held discussions with the Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr. Jawad Al-Anani, last Monday. The talks mainly concentrated on economic and trade relations between the two countries apart from improving bi-lateral co-operation and trade exchange. The two sides also discussed about providing a loan of about JD 8 million to Jordan.

In an interview with The Star, Dr. Furgler said that this loan is only a part of various fields of co-operation and it is soft. However, conditions have not been defined yet, he added, saying that "Swiss experts are coming to Jordan next year to study this matter, there are different proposals and at the beginning of next year we will decide on our priorities".

"We have a big interest in going on with this bilateral relation. In the direction of a trade balance, we are going to increase our imports from Jordan", he pointed out.

Dr. Furgler explained that within the framework for the development of trade, Switzerland has created a special section, Swiss Office for Development of Trade, to promote imports from other countries. The Swiss government does not import Jordanian Phosphate and Potash. The import of these products is a part of the free market system through free enterprises, he said. Discussions included also the possibility of importing Jordanian potash.

He also added, "we are studying the possibility of participating in the new projects in Jordan in the next Five Year Plan". Also scholarships in the field of hotel management and tourism in addition to technical assistance to the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) will be offered by Switzerland, he said.

Dr. Furgler met with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan later on Monday where they discussed means of improving economic bilateral relations.

Financial Market Report Prices up

By Mamdouh El-Ghaly
Star Financial Market Analyst

SHARP FLUCTUATIONS characterised this week regarding prices. Despite the fact that the daily handling volume was weak, the number of companies whose shares were handled were many. Prices are still going up for the 7th week in a row.

December is expected to provide guidelines on how the situation in 1985 would be. On this basis many investors refrain from selling and prefer to wait.

During this week 775,000 shares at a market value of JD 776,000 were handled divided among 1000 contracts; a decrease of 5.5 per cent compared to last week.

The daily handling average came to JD 155,000 with a deviation of 28 per cent or 5.6 of total around this average, thus indicating unstable handling.

The shares of 72 companies were handled from which 31 gained including:

- 1- Rania Plastic Bags closing at JD 0.950 up from JD 0.800
- 2- Jordan-French Insurance at JD 2.500 up from JD 2.210
- 3- Arab International Hotels at JD 0.490 up from 0.440
- 4- Petra Bank at JD 5.500 up from JD 5.000
- 5- Arab Seas Insurance at JD 2.800 up from JD 2.250

23 companies lost including:

- 1- Yarmouk Insurance closing at JD 1.120 down from JD 1.250
- 2- Islamic Bank at JD 2.600 down from JD 2.840
- 3- Petra Insurance at JD 0.630 down from JD 0.670
- 4- Arab Development and Investments at JD 0.860 down from JD 0.900

18 companies had no change in their share values.

The Star index at closing time came to 263.1; an increase of 4.3 points or 1.7 per cent increase.

In the over-the-counter market, more than 215,000 shares were handled at a market value of JD 88,000.

Trading in the regular market was distributed among the sector according to the following percentages:

Sector	Market share	Last Week's share
Banks	39.2%	38.7%
Industry	48.1%	52.7%
Services	8.2%	3.1%
Insurance	4.5%	5.5%

Prominent firms whose shares were traded, by sector

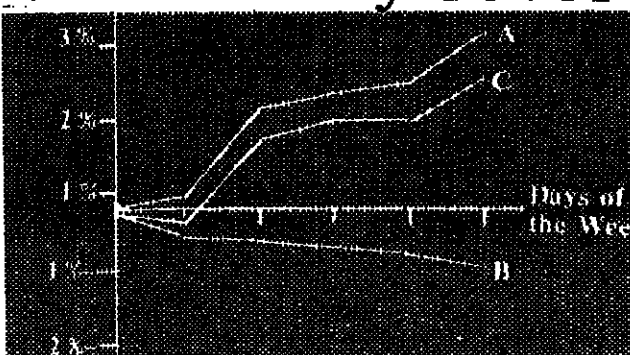
Banks (out of 21 traded)	Share of sector	Share of market
1. Jordan Security Corp.	39.2%	15.4%
2. Arab Bank	11.1%	4.4%
3. National Bank	9.9%	3.9%

Industrials (out of 31 traded)	Share of sector	Share of market
1. Arab Aluminium Ind.	24.2%	11.7%
2. Jordan Cement Ind.	15.2%	7.3%
3. South Cement	10.6%	5.1%
4. National Industries	6.6%	3.2%
5. Jordan Petroleum Refinery	6.1%	2.9%

Services (out of 8 traded)	Share of sector	Share of market
1. National Shipping Lines	25.4%	2.1%
2. Jordan Electric Power	17.9%	1.5%

Insurance (out of 12 traded)	Share of sector	Share of market
1. Jordan French Insurance	28.8%	1.3%
2. Jordan Insurance	28.4%	1.3%

The weekly record



- A. Companies showing an increase in stock prices
- B. Companies with a price decrease
- C. The mean record figure

Banks & Finance

Bahrain Agency grants 4 licences

THE BAHRAIN Monetary Agency has awarded four new banking licences to Bank Negara Indonesia, to Robert Fleming Holdings, a recognised UK bank, Robert Fleming Investment Management, to a US registered securities broker, Smith Barney Harris Upham and to one of the largest Japanese commercial banks, Tokai Bank.

Algeria's economy successful

THE ALGERIAN policy of nationalisation, particularly in the fields of hydrocarbons, mines, heavy industries, banking and insurance, seems to have worked for the country over the past ten years.

75% of the population now receive electricity, compared to 53% eight years ago.

In 1983, GDP increased at 6.2%, a rate which has been maintained since the previous year, and despite difficulties due to bad weather conditions, agricultural production has increased in cereals, industrial crops and vegetables.

Loans

\$75m Euronote for Saudi company

IN ORDER to provide working capital for the Ahmad Hamad Algasabi and Brothers trading group, the company is seeking a \$75 million Euronote facility. Banque Indosuez and Lloyds Bank International will jointly manage the facility, with the former acting as the issuing and pricing agent and the latter as the facility agent.

OPEC supports road plans

BURUNDI AND Rwanda will be able to carry out road projects through interest-free loans totalling \$10 million from the OPEC Fund for International Development.

AGFUND grants 1.3 million for UN water projects

THE ARAB Gulf Fund (AGFUND) has approved \$1.3 million for water supply systems in Mali and South Yemen, in support of the United Nations Development Programme. \$8.8 million has been earmarked for similar projects by the Fund.

IFAD extends \$ six million loan to Sudan

ROME (Opecna) — The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) last week extended a \$ six million loan to Sudan to help it complete a number of development projects. The loan agreement was signed by outgoing IFAD President Abdul Muhsein Al-Sudary and the Sudanese Ambassador here.

Investment

Kuwait stock exchange moves adversely affect Gulf companies

THERE HAS been a sharp drop in stock values in Kuwait, since the new measures to remove over one hundred companies from the Kuwait Stock Exchange share dealing list.

Eight Gulf companies, namely, Arab Iron and Steel, (Bahrain); Bahrain International Bank; Bahrain Middle East Bank; Coast Investment and Development Company, (Ras Al Khaimah, UAE); United Gulf Bank, (Bahrain); First Gulf Bank, (Ajman, UAE); Arab General Investment Corporation, (Dubai); and Petroleum Products Company, (Ajman), have been listed on the Kuwaiti Stock Exchange, as well as Kuwaiti Firms.

The other firms, which were involved with the unofficial stock market, Al-Manakh, have been asked to justify their position, by providing details of their financial position and trading activities before being granted a possible listing on the only stock exchange now operating in Kuwait.

Several companies, such as Sharjah cement, Fujairah Cement and RAK Clinker, have had a reliable background, but are finding it difficult to hold on, when share prices have plummeted. The forecast for the present situation is that many companies will be forced offshore, probably to Bahrain.

Egyptian Family takes largest share in House of Fraser.

Alfayed Investment and Trust (UK), an Egyptian controlled group, has bought a 29.9% share in House of Fraser and subsequently becomes the largest shareholder.

Iraq to sign economic accord with Egypt

CAIRO (Opecna) — Later this month, Iraq and Egypt will sign their second economic co-operation accord in less than a year.

Iraq signed a \$70 million trade agreement with Egypt last year under which Cairo exports textiles, buses, drugs and cigarettes to Iraq, while importing fertilizers, leather, wool and lighting equipment.

Commentary

Amman stock exchange will take off

PRICES AND turnover peaked in the Amman stock exchange during 1981 and the first five months of 1982 and plummeted badly in May and the first week of June 1982. For 30 months since, the stock exchange was experiencing yet new lows and moving from bad to worse — but will it recover?

The volume of daily turnover, which used to exceed the JD one million mark, is now running less than JD 150,000 in an average day.

The prevailing low prices make it very painful for stock holders to sell, because that means a realised loss. After all, the prices may improve tomorrow, so why not wait?

On the other hand the continued decline of the prices falls, so far, to lure new buyers. It could be more wise to wait until the prices drop even lower.

The Amman Stock Exchange, which was once thought to be a mine for overnight profits and easy money, proved to be as tough as any stock exchange in the world, capable of bringing the most sophisticated speculators down on their knees.

The present lull in the financial market reflects the economic slow-down and the grim expectations in the whole area, especially in the reduction of the Arab oil revenues and the natural consequences in the form of cut-backs in Arab financial aid to Jordan and also in the shrinking size of the Arab markets available to Jordanian exports of goods and services.

Government extensive expenditure, support and indirect subsidies caused many Jordanian companies to prosper. That was made possible when the inflow of aid was sufficient. The sobering new circumstances call for a sort of re-adjustment, whereby both the government and the private sector will have to reevaluate



Souk al-Manakh — prosperity of which did not affect Kuwaiti economy

their positions and build a new more balanced and objective relationship.

Will the present recession in the Amman stock exchange come to an end and if so when?

My guess is as good (or as bad) as yours. The repetition of overheated bullish buying, which pushed the prices up three years ago beyond reason is out of the question, but perhaps the prices are now too low to justify fears of even lower prices. Many shares are selling below book value. Prices bottomed off and shares of sound companies with efficient management will advance sooner or later.

The present mood is evidently not in favour of investing in shares. Investors are more inclined now to bank deposits, dollars or real estate. However, the extremely cheap prices of the shares of sound companies will no doubt attract some investors and create stronger demand.

It is true that some Jordanian companies suffered a financial setback, having expanded to cater for the Iraqi market and then abruptly losing it, we cannot generalise. Many other com-

panies are in good shape and have the potential to grow, give good returns and make a strong come-back.

There is no doubt that the stock exchange is, in a way, a barometer reflecting the overall financial and economic atmosphere, but this statement could not be accepted without qualification. The prices in the stock exchange declined to almost 50 per cent of the high level it reached 30 months previous. The Jordanian economy in contrast, continued to grow at a slower pace, but with no similar set-backs.

If you are a dealer or broker in the market, you may like to think of the huge turnover and rising prices of economic prosperity, but from the national point of view, it is not important whether or not shares change hands at any price. It does not add or subtract to the national investments.

Sometimes the strong demand on shares reflects lack of other opportunities to invest savings, such as the activities and consequences of the Kuwaiti Al-Manakh market, the prosperity of which did not benefit the Kuwaiti economy nor reflected a real growth or prosperity until, as expected, it crashed. No one can claim that the rise and fall of the Manakh unofficial stock exchange actually reflected the true state of affairs of the Kuwait economy.

Relatively speaking the stock market is now cheap. The price/earnings ratio is in the order of eight to nine instead of the usual fourteen to seventeen and the yield is well above six per cent instead of the usual four.

The financial indicators are ripe for a rally in the Jordanian stock exchange. The question is not if, but when, it will take place.

Arab Business Report

Banks bear the oil burden

By Sajid Rizvi
Compass News Features

LONDON — The world's worst victims of a financial crash brought on by Third World debt defaults caused by declining export revenues, crop failures or chronic economic disease do not identify developing banks as a chief source of trouble. But the oil dollars have changed that perspective.

This is not to suggest that a crash is imminent, but Middle East bankers see Arab Banks as "one of the most visible victims," as one financier put it, of declining oil revenues.

Furthermore, the problems faced by Arab banks have a spillover potential for the rest of the economies.

Foremost among those problems is a mountain of debts owed to Arab banks in the Gulf, the bulk of which may have to be written off, according to financial analysts.

Having enjoyed the relative security of plentiful oil revenues, with few demands on expertise, the banks now find the instruments necessary to halt a drain of resources or to apply them usefully either do not exist or need refinement.

The cause of all these troubles is not simply a cash crunch. "But the fact that money is short is turning some banks inward," said one banker. "This had to happen," he said, "the expertise to handle crises is not enough."

So a familiar problem, manpower expertise, threatens to rebound on banks, particularly those in the Middle East.

Asian banks are considered slightly better off, but they do not face the challenge of high volume of transactions, as Arab banks do.

Warnings about the dangers facing Arab banks, "first cousins" of the state oil industries according to one banker, have come loud and clear.

Abdel Latif Benani, general manager of Union de Banques Arabes et Francaises in Paris, wrote in the Arab Banker magazine in June that the Arab consortium and offshore banks' dependence on the money markets — as opposed to a deposit base and domestic market — "can make them vulnerable during periods of liquidity squeeze," as now.

He believed the consortium banks particularly were favoured by the substantial balance of payments surpluses of the Arab

countries and low competition from other emerging banks.

"However, now that significant adverse current account developments are occurring, the Arab consortium banks risk suffering relatively strong repercussions."

Kuwait's Oil and Finance Minister, Sheikh Ali Khalifa al-Sabah, warned in a recent speech to the Arab Bankers Association in London that the lack of expertise could limit the Arab banks' capacity to tackle risks.

Arab bankers say they have poured millions of dollars into training, yet acknowledge that not enough was done during earlier times. Training personnel in the present austerity conditions puts constraints on the banks' budgets.

Having suffered from the oil squeeze, the Arab banks are re-examining the Gulf economies some of their penny-pinching tendencies. One effect of cut-backs, particularly in loans, clearly has been recessionary, according to experts.

The uncertainty of the oil market means that the downward trend may continue. The stricken banks, therefore, may find themselves playing an unlikely role of catalyst in the unsavory process of stagnation of some economies.

Money matters

Money making

By Alan Shawn Feinstein

A MONEY making opportunity: Have any old papers or documents signed by people who lived many years ago?

If those people are anyone famous, such as a former US president, leading scientist, etc., take them to any autograph dealer in your area or send a copy of them to a company like American Collectibles, P O Box 57, Lewiston, NY 14092, to find out their worth.

Autograph dealers are very interested in documents signed by famous people, though generally, not any others. However, if you have an old document or letter signed by someone you never heard of, who may not be even remotely famous, it could still be worth money to you...

Just pick up your local telephone directory and find somebody with the last name of that person. And call him, telling him what you have. If the singer should happen to be an ancestor of anyone you reach, you could be offered a handsome price for that document, as a family keepsake.

But, even if the people you reach can't recall any relationship with the singer, they may still be willing to pay for memorabilia like this from someone with the same last name as theirs who lived many years ago, especially someone from the same state.

It awakens thoughts about their family name and what kind of people shared it. And, that singer could turn out to be a relative after all, after logging the memories of their elders...

Anything old that is signed can be of value to someone, somewhere, who shares that singer's name. It's just a case of finding who'll pay a good sum for it.

You might even build a good business for yourself soliciting old letters through a little classified ad in your daily paper and contacting people with the same surnames as those on anything you're offered.

HAVE YOU AN IMPORTANT DOCUMENT YOU WISH TO KNOW IF IT'S AN ORIGINAL OR A COPY? Contact Jean Berrie, 77 Victoria St., Cranston 02910, chairman of the American Society of Industrial Security and a member of the National Association of Document Examiners.

HAVE ANY OLD PHOTOGRAPHS BEFORE 1891? They may be worth money. Send detailed descriptions of them and, if possible, photo copies to the Leland Gallery, 1645 Morrison Ln., Northbrook, Illinois 60062 (Tel. 312-291-0919). After examining them, Mrs Leland will make you an offer.

The Treasure Chest

Dollar advances; gold price falls

LONDON (AP) — The US dollar staged a broad advance in early European trading Wednesday despite a fresh round of interest rate cuts by American banks. Gold prices continued to fall.

Dealers said trading was light, but those investors active in the market seemed to think American interest rates had reached about as low as they're going for now.

On Tuesday, a fresh round of interest rate cuts — led by Chase Manhattan, which dropped its prime rate to 11.25 per cent — was accompanied by a modest dollar selloff in Europe.

But a variety of factors, including oil price worries and concern for the slowdown in the American recovery and the yawning US trade deficit, came together in New York trading, and the dollar rebounded.

When trade opened in Europe Wednesday, the US currency was again riding high.

People who believe the US inflation rate will remain low will be quite happy to stay in dollars, explained a dealer at the London office of Citibank. "If they can find an alternative, I wish they'd let me know."

In Tokyo, where trading ends before Europe's business day begins, the dollar slipped a fraction to close at 245.30 Yen, compared with Tuesday's 245.45. Later Wednesday in London, the dollar was quoted at 245.53 Yen.

Other dollar rates at mid-morning, compared with late Tuesday: — 3.0730 West German Marks, up from 3.0555 — 2.5303 Swiss Francs, up from 2.51925 — 9.4135 French Francs, up from 9.3575 — 3.4613 Dutch Guilders, up from 3.4455 — 1,901.50 Italian Lire, up from 1,892.75 — 1.3236 Canadian Dollars, up from 1.3215

The British Pound, which has taken a beating amid reports that spot oil prices are slipping, lost another cent in value. It was quoted at 1.1993 dollars, compared with 1.2090 Tuesday. Lower petroleum prices cut into Britain's revenue from its North Sea oilfields.

Gold prices, which have been dropping steadily since early November, were again depressed to the dollar's strength. The metal opened in London at a bid price of 328.60 dollars a troy ounce, compared with late Tuesday's 333.60. At mid-morning Wednesday, the city's five major bullion dealers fixed a recommended price of 329.10 dollars.

In Zurich, the bid price was 328.90 dollars, down from 333.25 late Tuesday.

Earlier, in Hong Kong, gold fell 5.27 to close at a bid 330.07.

In New York Tuesday, gold fell 3.90 to close at 327.30. Silver was quoted in London Wednesday at a bid price of 7.13 dollars a troy ounce, down from Tuesday's 7.36.

Foreign Currency

Dates	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Monday	Tuesday
DM	3.0067	3.0008	3.021	3.0640	3.0580
FF	9.2265	9.2100	9.265	9.3820	9.3695
Yen	244.750	243.45	245.03	245.70	245.45

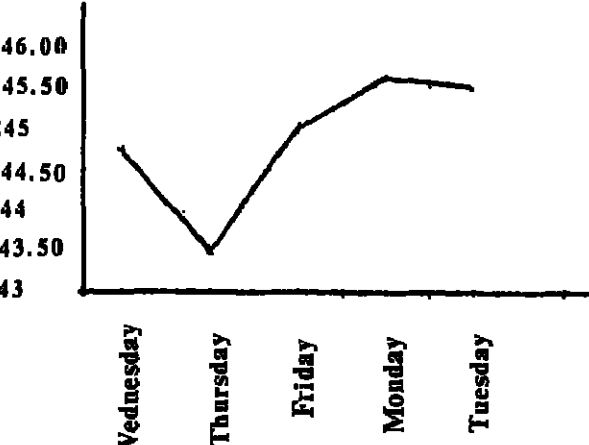
US \$ against DM



US \$ against FF



US \$ against Yen



Gold

LONDON (AP) — Late gold prices (in US dollars per troy ounce) as on 28 November:

London 333.60 bid
Paris 333.76 fixed
Frankfurt 300.34 fixed
Zurich 333.25 bid
Hong Kong 335.34 bid

Dates	Friday	Monday	Tuesday
London	341.50	336.90	333.60
Zurich	341.70	337.20	333.25
Hong Kong	342.97	340.82	335.340



Gold in Jordan

AMMAN (Star) — Prices on Wednesday 28 November 1984, were as follows:

18 ct. JD 3.250 per gramme
21 ct. JD 3.800 per gramme
24 ct. JD 4.500 per gramme
One kilogramme (9999) JD 4,350.000

Ounce... JD 140.000
Gold Sterling... JD 31.500 (Central Bank)
Rashadi Pound... JD 27.500 (seven gramme)

Source: Yousef Abu Sara, Jewellers, Amman

What Money Earns in Foreign Currencies

Currency Period	US	DM	SF	FF	D Fls	Yen	Sterling Pound
1 M	8 13/16	5 5/16	4 1/4	10 5/8	5 5/8	6 5/16	9 3/4
2 M	8 15/16	5 9/16	5	10 15/16	5 3/4	6 3/8	9 3/4
3 M	9 1/8	5 5/8	5	11 1/16	5 13/16	6 5/16	9 3/4
6 M	9 7/16	5 5/8	4 15/16	11 3/8	5 15/16	6 5/16	9 7/8
9 M	9 3/4	5 3/4	4 15/16	11 5/8	6	6 5/16	9 7/8
12 M	10	5 3/4	4 15/16	11 15/16	6 1/16	6 5/16	9 7/8
2 Years	11 1/8	6 1/8	—	—	—	—	—
3 Years	11 1/2	6 3/8	—	—	—	—	—
4 Years	11 5/8	6 3/4	—	—	—	—	—
5 Years	11 7/8	7	—	—	—	—	—

The above rates are those offered on the London interbank market on 27 November prior to customers. Commercial banks and financial companies offer the same rates less a margin of ranging between 1/32 of 1% up to 1/2 of 1%. But it may happen that for large deposits, some banks may take no margin or even offer higher rates than in London. Depending on each institution's needs, margins can change significantly.

This Jerusalem Star — Ad-Dunya survey was carried out with the assistance of Finance and Credit Corporation (Amman) and CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL (CYPRUS).

Contracts & Contacts

- EXTENSION OF water pipes and domestic joints in the central area. Tender documents are available upon payment of JD 100 from the Water Authority's office. Closing date: 4 December, 1984.
- Supply of:

	Conveyors for loading and unloading gas cylinders.	JD 10
86/84	Pipe bending machine	JD 5
10/84	Fan belts	JD 3
121/84	Rock sand	JD 2

 Details can be had from the Jordan Petroleum Refinery. Closing date 7 January 1985.
- INSURANCE OF sedans and passenger cars for one year from 1 January 1985. Closing date 1 December 1984.
- SUPPLY OF 2025 tonnes of kraft paper for manufacturing cement bags. Tender documents available from Jordan Paper Bags Company upon payment of JD 50 each. Closing date 10 December, 1984.
- SUPPLY AND installation of fire fighting equipment at warehouses in Taif. Tender documents are available from the Ministry of Supply upon payment of JD 5 each. Closing date: 10 December, 1984.
- SETTING UP of a commercial project in Aqaba consisting of:
 - Commercial center
 - Closed central market building.
 Qualified contractors can have the pre-qualification forms from the Jordan-Gulf Investment Company's office. Closing date: 15 December, 1984.
- Supply of —

	Cost of tender documents	Closing Date
Fiberglass house	JD 7	10 December
Spareparts for computers	JD 1	1 December
Printed matters	JD 2	10 December
Coloured television	JD 5	10 December
Racks and iron angles	JD 2	10 December
- THE ELECTRICITY Authority sources disclosed that it has generated 616,834,658 Kwh electricity during the third quarter of this year compared to 527,246,151 Kwh generated during the same period last year — an increase by 17 per cent. The total generated power until September 1984 came to 1,668,199,297 kw/hour compared to 1,409,375,618 kw/hour during the same period last year — indicating a growth rate of 18.4 per cent.
- ASPHALTING OF town roads in Mathlutha Thalban area. Tender documents are available from the rural council upon payment of JD 10 each. Closing date: 2 December, 1984.
- IMPLEMENTATION OF central heating works in Amman area under the Ministry of Awqaf affairs. Offers will be accepted until 1 December, 1984.
- INSURANCE OF cars and other vehicles of the Arab Potash Company operating in Ghor al-Safi. Tender documents can be had from the office on payment of JD 20 each. Closing date: 11 December, 1984.
- INSURANCE OF Jordan University's assets; buildings, supplies, equipment and vehicles. Closing date: 17 December.
- INSURANCE OF the Jordan Petroleum Refinery. Insurance companies to submit their prices for each type of insurance. Tender documents can be had on payment of JD 5 each. Closing date: 16 December.
- SUPPLY OF iron pipes of size 24" dia, 1500 metres for Water Authority. Tender documents are available from the office upon payment of JD 100 each. Closing date: 15 December.
- REQUIRE TECHNICAL services of local consulting firms to prepare a study on rural and secondary roads network, for the Ministry of Public Works. Tender documents are available upon payment of JD 50 each. Closing date: 8 December.

Middle East contracts

British companies win Saudi contracts

A DORSON Park Company, Richard Simon and Sons, has been awarded an SR 400,000 contract to supply equipment for a fertilizer plant in Riyadh.

Nesma-Costain Process Company Limited, the Saudi Arabian section of Costain Process in Britain, has won the contract to construct a 50,000-annual ton capacity oil blending plant in Jeddah.

A joint venture between Weir Westgarth Ltd, Daewoo Shipbuilding and Heavy Machinery Ltd and Daewoo Corporation of Seoul has won a desalination plant project from the Saline Water Conversion Corporation.

British joint venture wins Iraqi contract

LONDON (Opecna) — The Iraqi housing organization has awarded Mascon and Mivan overseas of Northern Ireland, a British joint venture, a \$13 million contract to build 1,000 apartments in Baghdad. The project will be financed under a \$349 million economic agreement signed last year by the Iraqi and British governments.

Interest ceiling: Good or bad for a country?

By Robert Poullot
Star Economy Analyst

WHEN INTEREST rates are administered (instead of simply being monitored) in a country by the central banking authorities, it might appear to be beneficial to all class of citizens having to deal with banks.

The general impression among the public is that when a ceiling of say 9 per cent is imposed as a maximum rate that can be charged by banks, business is easier and borrowers are better protected.

This is only an illusion. In fact, the whole country might be losing more growth opportunities by putting an interest rate ceiling than allowing flexibility on the money market. Worse even, by introducing too many constraints in terms of interest, the State runs the risk of losing more and more control on the directions and flows of domestic funds. The country becomes suddenly more liquid, savers look desperately for new placements or investment opportunities and tend to transact increasingly outside officially regulated channels. Consumption can grow unusually high and leaks multiply throughout the whole system in order to allow domestic capital to find greater opportunities abroad.

The Governor of Jordan's Central Bank, Mohammed Said Nabulsi, doesn't agree with that and believes that had interest rates been free to fluctuate over the last few years especially under the influence of the dollar, many corporations would have suffered and the stock exchange would have been seriously hit.

His underlying approach, at least the way we perceive it, is that a small country like Jordan just cannot afford lifting all constraints on the money and capital markets. If all savers had had the opportunity to deposit their funds at 15 or 18 per cent interest, everybody would have stacked their money in the banks and no bond nor share could have found any taker. In short, the whole structure of the Jordanian financial theatre would be disrupted.

Perhaps, but the New York stock exchange did not collapse when interest rates shot up. Obviously, most indexes receded but the equity market continued to grow, even at a slower pace. The bond market also lost steam during some time as interest rates moved higher but bond holders did a fantastic killing when interest rates started falling.

Our argument is that to grow stronger, both bond and equity markets must be exposed to the competition of the short term money markets (hence banking activities). If not, they will remain artificial and run the risks of very eccentric ups and downs during particularly tense periods.

Governor Nabulsi, who mind you is among the best central bankers of the Middle East, is convinced that Jordan must open up gradually and has demonstrated that since 1977, thanks to an impressive string of liberalisation measures. However, the last stumbling block to a real dynamic financial market in the kingdom is probably the interest rate ceiling policy.

The case of Cyprus

Take the case of Cyprus. Since 1977 or thereabout, both the ministry of finance and the Central Bank have been desperately fighting to lift the interest rate ceiling of 9 per cent. But to no avail. Each year, the minister of finance has gone back to parliament to get its approval to liberalise interest rates.

Result: More and more funds are escaping the Island in search of better yields. Savers are simply dissatisfied with the situation. Despite all the foreign exchange controls prevailing in Cyprus, funds move to Greece, the United Kingdom, West Germany and North America. In Athens alone, hundreds and hundreds of apartments worth millions and millions of pounds have been purchased by Cypriots. Odd as it may be when real estate is so attractive in Cyprus, it means that the Island lost that much capital and is forced to attract more and more private investment by foreigners to keep its balance of payments straight.

As for the other markets in Cyprus, such as the bond or equity theatres, there is very little activity. So it remains difficult to assess the real casualties of an interest rate ceiling policy.

Surely enough, the issue of Riba (meaning 'excess') or interest is a very sensitive point in a Muslim country due to the precepts of the Holy Shari'a, the Islamic code of conduct which bans the notion of capital remuneration. However, so little research has actively been conducted by Arab central authorities on this subject that arguments for or against Riba have very little effect on the overall situation.



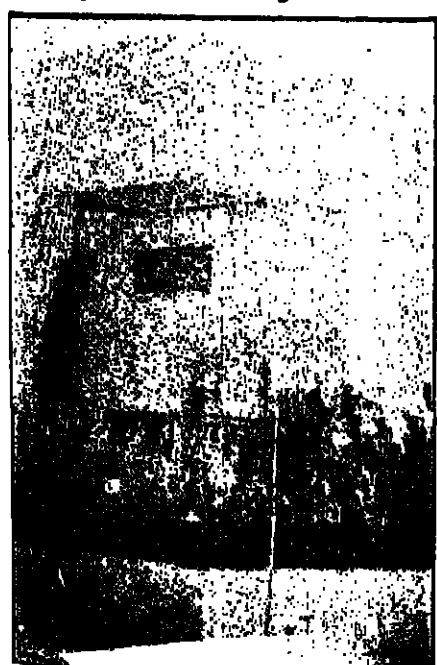
A house that proclaims its existence to the world

This week Josephine Zananiri continues her series on modern Jordanian domestic architecture with an assessment of Bilal Hammad's 1980 residence for Abdul Majid Mishal.

ONE OF Amman's most sophisticated villas, the Abdul Majid Mishal residence designed by Bilal Hammad, rises quite imperiously down on Maklah Street. The dwelling, belonging to the monumental style, is an intriguing study in creating duality; every facet of the house has a contrasting face.

The residence, designed in 1980 by the respected, cherubic Mr Hammad, proved an excellent opportunity to demonstrate what he was capable of producing. In his late twenties at the time, Bilal, a graduate of the Alexandria University, created a house which remains quite different from anything constructed in Jordan.

As he himself says, the villa is a statement or 'monument'. It does not settle against the landscape but rather rises and proclaims its existence. However unlike other monumental houses constructed here, the Mishal residence is in impeccable taste; it is sophisticated yet realistic, powerful but still graceful.



Definitely in the monumental style

When Mr Hammad started the design, the rectangularity of the lot naturally affected the concept of the dwelling and in order to perfect the theme, a small semi-enclosed balcony was added on the upper level. Surprisingly the rectangular concept disappears immediately one enters the house, and one of height and space become dominant.

Height is emphasized by the stone dividing wall which splits the house into halves, lengthwise. A steep, narrow flight of stairs traversing the stone wall also emphasizes this perspective. And because the informal living area is composed of the two levels, the windows run full length, giving maximum light and of course a wonderful vista of height. A magnificent chimney sloping gracefully from ceiling to floor also induces this perspective.

The external appearance of the dwelling is very much one of introversion. Walls are unbroken by windows which are located only on the building's corners and then severely recessed. The appearance then is of an introspective house, whose inner world is unknowable. Once again, upon entry the opposite impression is immediate. One's focus is not inward but directed directly back outwards. The effect is achieved firstly by the already feeling of space and height plus the use of dazzling white walls and the pure white of the stone dividing wall.

One traditional approach to design has been to add volumes to the initial square or rectangular form. The Mishal re-

sidence is actually the reverse of this process. Starting with a rectangle Mr Hammad carved blocks out of it, namely the four ends of the window recesses and the void of the front door in the middle of the house. In the simplicity of the design shape lies the sleek sophistication of the dwelling and throughout the house no line, wall, or space is permitted to intrude beyond its function.

Simplicity

The house layout continues the theme of simplicity and sophistication. The front entry is imposing and impressive. Dark wooden doors are recessed several feet into the house and the void continues onto the upper level as a small operable balcony.

Entry to the house is spectacular. On the left a large formal seating area, on the right and slightly elevated the informal living room. At the rear of both rooms is the neatly worked natural stone wall which introduces both light and texture to the rooms.

The formal salon is large and luxurious; the informal area is dominated primarily by the long corner windows and the extended stone chimney. The two salons are united by the stone wall and the continued use of an extremely exotic pink and brown Spanish marble floor tiling.

An arch leads from the formal sitting room to a spacious dining room on the other side of the dividing wall. Running parallel with the formal salon but behind the wall are the storage room and kitchen, which can also be reached from the informal sitting area.

The same doorway leads to a charming oriental room. Cleverly, the low couch curves with the room's shape and the furnishing blend with the floor coverings. Access to the upper level is via a steep glossy white stair well running on either side of the stone dividing wall. The balcony on the upper floor allows a magnificent downwards view of the informal sitting area.

Stately

The first section off the landing is a stately bedroom suite. Adjacent to this, the master bedroom, which could be the most luxurious in Amman. Included in suite is a small dainty salon, behind this the bathroom furnished with extremely expensive classical equipment. The bedroom area itself is large and has access to two balconies. The first the void above the front door and on the opposite side, to the semi enclosed balcony at the end of the house.

Mr. Hammad believes that such balconies should be a welcome addition to Amman homes where the open air is pleasant in the evening although often coldly bracing after some time.

The basement houses services and a well turned out self-contained flat. The terracing and external balcony complete the overall picture of a well designed villa.

The Mishals obviously enjoy their home and have furnished it mainly with classical Spanish pieces. The only alteration Mrs Mishal would make is a slight increase in the size of the bathrooms.

For Mr. Hammad, one of Amman's most successful younger architects the house was obviously a satisfying experience; even when browsing through it four years later he describes it lovingly and touches walls and fixtures fondly.

The house's simplicity is rare in Jordan where all too often buildings are cluttered with arches, swirls and box like protrusions. With its clear refined lines, the Mishal residence will always remain one of the most sophisticated villas in Amman.

Photos: Pam Dougherty

Keeping our houses in order

By Pam Dougherty

PROBLEMS AND POSSIBILITIES in the management of human settlements will be coming under scrutiny in Amman in the coming two years. Mr. Nicholas Yu of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) has been in Amman for the past week to organise the establishment of a regional centre for manpower development and training in projects related to human settlement.

In an interview with The Star Mr. Shafiq Zawadeh, Director-General of the Housing Corporation said that the centre is to be located in the Housing Corporation and will serve the needs of all Arab countries. The centre's first job will be to define just what each country actually needs in the way of manpower training for the satisfactory running of urban and rural development schemes.

Once this is arranged the centre will organise two five to six week seminars each year to tackle such issues as the long-term maintenance of housing projects, the relationship between residents and municipality and between new communities and their surrounding communities and the social problems of residents in newly established residential projects. Mr. Zawadeh explained that any new community creates environmental problems and these must be dealt with.

Lecturers for the seminars will be drawn from Habitat and from Jordan. The Housing Corporation will be co-operating with the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, the Universities, and the Amman Municipality to provide suitable Jordanian contributors. Mr. Zawadeh emphasized that the centre will deal with the management of already established housing programmes and not with questions of how to increase the number.

Jordan volunteered a site for the centre and \$100,000 towards its establishment costs because the authorities here believe that the project offers advantages for both Jordan and its Arab neighbours. On the Jordanian side the knowledge of those involved in the housing field will be enriched by the seminars, the exchange of ideas and the contacts with others in the field. Arab participants in the seminars will enjoy the same benefits with the added benefit of the convenience of Jordan's location and facilities.

One problem the new centre will not tackle, however, is that of increasing the number of available housing units although this is an enduring problem in all the Arab states.

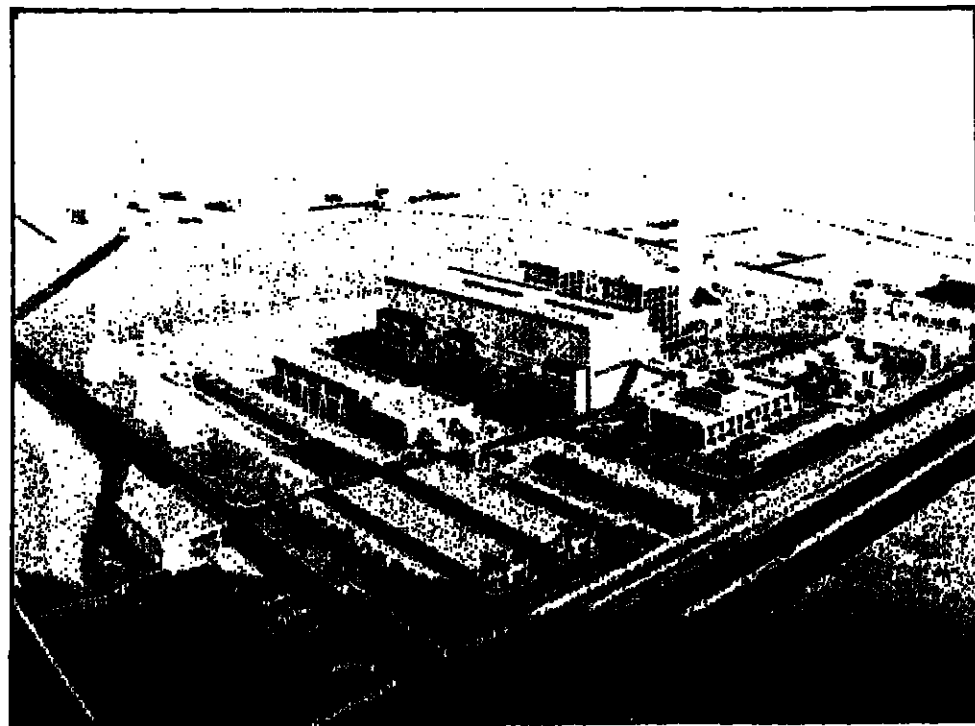
Mr Zawadeh considers that in its fifteen years of existence the Housing Corporation has done well in providing houses for its target group, those in the 20-40 per cent lowest income bracket. The HC uses finance from the Housing and Central Banks to build housing units on government land and then sells them at moderate prices to low income earners. At present it has a major project underway at Abu Nusair, plans for another large estate at the Queen Alia International Airport and a number of smaller projects throughout Jordan.

But Mr Zawadeh is quick to point out that because of financial constraints, the corporation has no chance of building the number of houses needed by Jordanians. It has estimated that 15,000 to 18,000 units are needed per year and the HC can at best hope to provide 3,000 units per year. Mr Zawadeh says he can see no solution to this problem at present.

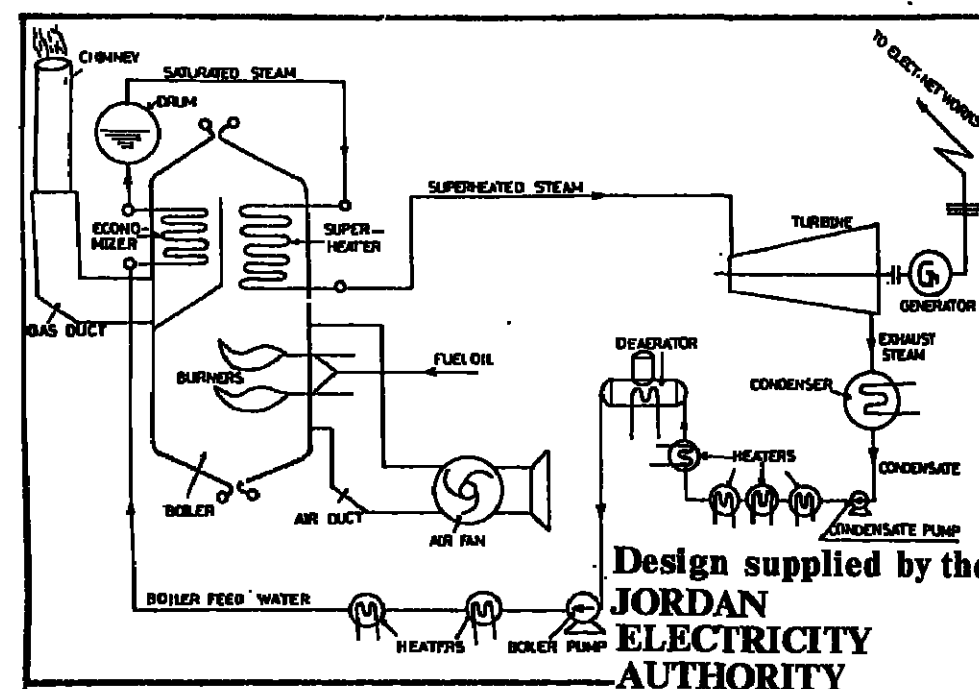
Of the other Arab countries, Mr. Zawadeh says Tunisia seems to be having the greatest success in coping with its housing needs. There the task of housing is shared between the private and public sectors. The public sector concentrates on slum renewal work while the private sector takes on the work of building mainly high rise apartments for middle and upper class families.



Work begins on new Aqaba power station



Designers impression of Aqaba Thermal Power Station.



Getting down to details

ONCE THE Aqaba station is actually working each steam generator in the first stage will be fired with heavy fuel oil and will be of the pressurized furnace type designed to supply steam to a tandem compound double flow turbine generator operating at 141.6 kg/cubic metre abs pressure and main/reheat temperatures of 538°C/ 538°C.

The boiler, turbine/generator unit and auxiliary systems will be designed so that approximately five per cent additional output can be achieved with the turbine at valves wide open (VWO), normal throttle pressure conditions. The turbine back pressure is based on a maximum inlet cooling water temperature of 28°C (82.4°F).

The cycle will consist of seven feedwater heaters including a deaerator and two high pressure heaters. At full load, one 100 per cent capacity condensate pump will take suction from the condenser hot well and discharge to the deaerator via the low pressure (LP) heaters. Two of three available 30 per cent capacity boiler feed pumps will take suction from the deaerator storage tank and discharge to the boiler economizer via the high pressure heaters (HP). A by-pass system will be provided for the heaters.

The steam will flow from the steam generator superheater outlet to the high-pressure (HP) turbine. After ex-

traction through the HP turbine, the steam will be returned to the boilers, reheated and then admitted to the intermediate pressure (IP) turbine. This turbine then exhausts to the double flow LP turbine which exhausts into the condenser where the steam will condense and collect in the condenser hot well.

Extraction steam for feedwater heating will be taken from various points in the turbine cycle such as the cold reheat steam line and IP and LP turbines. Condensed extraction steam from the HP heaters will be cascaded to the deaerator. The LP heater drains will be cascaded to the condenser.

The condenser cooling system will be of the once-through type, using water from the Gulf of Aqaba. A recovery turbine will be installed in the condenser cooling water discharge system with expected generation of 2400 KW.

Electrical generators will be rated 160.5 MVA, 50 Hz, 3000 RPM with a .85 power factor. Generator output voltage will be stepped up to 132 KV transmission lines to the City of Aqaba, 2-132 KV lines to the north terminating in Amman and two feeders to a JEA 132/33 KV stepdown substation at the plant. Power will be also delivered to Amman over two 400-KV lines operating initially at 132 KV. Room for four additional 132 KV circuits is included in the switchyard.

Energy saving will be 25 per cent

By Pam Dougherty
Star Staff Writer

WORK ON the first phase of Jordan's major new thermal power station at Aqaba is underway and progressing well, says project manager Abdul Wahab Zubi of the Jordan Electricity Authority.

The Aqaba Thermal Power Station will initially consist of two 130 MW units and will have provision for expansion to an ultimate capacity of approximately 1540 MW. The cost of the first stage of the project is approximately JD 76.5 million.

In an interview with The Star Mr Zubi said that the siting of the plant at Aqaba should act a major boost to the industrial development of southern Jordan region and bring a big increase in job possibilities. In addition to this the availability of sea water for cooling at the plant means that the Aqaba station will be able to enjoy a fuel saving of twenty five per cent compared with the Hussein power station at Zerqa.

The Aqaba location has a further advantage in that fuel for the station can be delivered conveniently via Aqaba port. The oil will be imported by ocean going tankers, unloaded at the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Company's wharf and pumped to the station through an 18 inch pipeline. The power station storage tanks will have a capacity of about 130,000 cubic metres, sufficient for ninety days of operation.

Mr. Zubi explained that all fresh water requirements for the plant including boiler water make up, potable water and land irrigation water will be supplied by pipeline from Qa' Disi.

Seawater will be used to cool the water coming from the turbine outlet. 3,600 cubic metres of water per hour will be pumped to the main steam surface condenser and to the closed cycle cooling water heat exchanger. The seawater will be pumped through two 1.5 metre glass fibre pipes to an elevation of about 35 metres and then will return back to the Gulf through a two metre discharge pipe.

A site survey and a marine study have been carried out to assess the environmental impact of the water use. To protect the coral and the other aquatic life in

the Gulf of Aqaba a special nozzle on the water outlet will diffuse the used cooling water which leaves the plant 10 degrees warmer than when it went in.

To reduce the impact of chlorine on the aquatic systems a mechanical cleaning device is included to control biofouling in the condenser tubes. Chlorine will be injected



Mr Abdul Wahab Zubi

to control biofouling in the remainder of the circulating water system only, thus minimising its total use. The system will also be "shock" treated in order to maintain US Environmental Agency water quality discharge criteria for residual chlorine.

The contract for the Turbine Generator Island was awarded to Franco Tosi of Italy, the Boiler Island to Mitsubishi Heavy Industry of Japan, the Switchyard Island to Brown Boveri of Germany, the Civil Works to Mitsubishi/Fudo of Japan and the Fuel Oil Storage Tanks construction to Sam Sung of South Korea.

The design work for most elements has now been completed and construction has begun. The commercial operation of unit no. 1 has been set for 28 April 1986 and for unit no. 2 for 28 August 1986.

A look at the alternatives Fuel for a cheap future

LARGE, SOPHISTICATED oil fired power stations are one approach the business of energy, but there are other ways of doing things. The residues from crops could become an important rural fuel source as other supplies of energy continue to dwindle. What's more, there is a huge reservoir of potentially usable energy.

Farmers and researchers are already putting residues to work. For example, farmers in the midwestern state of Iowa in the United States burn corn cobs and corn stalks to meet all of that state's potential rural energy needs. And less than one kilogramme of corn residue has enough energy to dry a bushel of corn.

Engineers at a US Department of Agriculture energy centre in the southern state of Georgia are drying grain by burning cotton stalks, corn stalks and soybean stalks in a test furnace. The cotton stalks — because of their woody texture — burn longer and more efficiently than the other two residues tested.

At the University of Minnesota, researchers are burning corn residue to supply heat for turkey and pig housing facilities, as well as for grain drying.

And more and more cotton gin operators are also harvesting energy from cotton gin wastes, a cheap and plentiful source. Raymond Miller, manager of a

cotton gin company in the state of Arkansas, uses gin waste to dry cotton, and he seems to have the process down to a highly successful science. "In one year," he says, "we used 90 per cent less natural gas to dry our cotton than we used before we started burning trash."

Such savings depend upon the type of furnace used for burning the waste materials, and there are several different furnaces now on the market — developed just for residue burning.

A Georgia firm that specializes in curing tobacco uses a furnace that is designed to burn cotton stalks, corn stalks and cobs, peanut and soybean vines, or even sawdust.

But burning is not the only way to harvest energy from crop leftovers. Two University of Arkansas engineers are studying heat production from composting cotton stalk trash. "The heat comes from a form of fermentation (microbial decomposition), which begins when water is added to the trash."

Gin trash begins decomposing almost immediately after water is applied, and puts out heat within six to eight hours. What needs to be done is to establish heat rates for a given amount of material. Then that can be incorporated into the design of a building. Composting could even heat a greenhouse in the winter.



'A Bedouin preparing his fresh coffee'



'The Rababa player'



'Bedouin woman preparing bread'

Artist captures the spirit of the people

By Ersilia Moreno
Special to The Star

THOUGH HE now considers his art work as a hobby, Armenian painter Jack Kaplanian whose work has been on exhibition at the British Council this week relied on his talent to pay for his education as a child. During the war in 1948, his family fled Jerusalem and sought refuge in Bethlehem. Due to financial difficulties his father could not send the 14 year old Jack and his younger brother George to a good private school.

The two boys then took it upon themselves to earn the tuition fees. As both of them were interested in art, they decided to paint tiles and sell them to tourists. Kaplanian did watercolour portraits and his 12 year old brother did landscapes. His uncle was very influential in the art world at the time.

"My family, especially my mother's side, is full of artists," he says. His adolescence was further enriched by a teaching brother at his school who painted frescoes

and by a neighbour who played classical music. Kaplanian however did not set out to pursue fine art as an adult career. He went to Paris to study "the art of hairdressing," as he calls it. For, he says like any art, it requires creativity. However, he did not forget about painting while he was in France. He sought the company of artists, some of whom he still visits, and experimented with oils, watercolours, and pastels. Later he served for four years as the Royal hairdresser.

He says he left hairdressing because he longed to return to painting and drawing. He went to Australia for a couple of years and there he became involved in using different colours. He says that the colours and scenery he saw were inspiring but as his talent lies in oriental style portraits ("I'm not a landscapist", he emphasizes) that pay particular attention to traditional dress Australia was not artistically motivating for him and he returned to the Middle East.

He held his first group exhibition in Jordan in 1969 and exhibited oil paintings. Since then Kaplanian has exhibited in other group exhibitions, but his current

watercolour display at the British Council is his first solo show since he returned to art 15 years ago.

Kaplanian says it took him 30 years to master the medium of watercolour and master it he has. Kaplanian does what he does very well. He explains that watercolours are not as easy to use as they seem. One cannot be interrupted while working. Each specific part of the painting must be totally completed, otherwise it will be ruined. "You can't rewet because the colour will not be the same," he says.

All of his subjects are very familiar to the resident or tourist in the Jordan-Palestine area. For some pictures, such as that of the Bedouin from Petra, he sat with his subjects for many hours. Kaplanian has captured the true spirit of his subject, who was preparing coffee, from the detailed red kaffiyeh to the serene facial expression.

For others he had to sneak candid photographs and then paint them later.

There are beautiful paintings of Bedouin women making butter and bread, striking Palestinian women clad in the traditional

dress of Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Jaffa, scenes of the ancient streets of the Muslim quarter of Jerusalem, Bedouin from various Jordanian districts, the occasional beggar, and a Palestinian woman nursing her child. Each one capturing the exact likeness of its subject with simplicity and flair.

Kaplanian has also done some excellent pastel drawings of a boy from Madaba and an Egyptian woman from the Sinai Desert.

Kaplanian's paintings are all very reasonably priced, ranging from JD 50 to JD 100. "I am an artist, I like to sell my work. I've priced the paintings especially for those who can't afford high prices and would like to own one of my paintings. I'd like people to have them in their homes," he says.

Reproductions of his works in the form of cards are also available from bookshops. He will also have a new range of cards soon, with illustrations done in China ink. Jack Kaplanian's exhibition at the British Council ends Thursday 29 November.

Da' Seh challenges with a tragic world

By Vanessa Batrouni
Special to The Star

HUSSEIN DA' SEH'S meditations on the philosophy of existence and man, the pivot of civilisation, are a series of personal reflections in which the viewer must search for meanings. These meditations are on show at the French Cultural Centre until Wednesday 5 December.

Clues are given in common signs and visual parallels and the eye is attacked by insistent colours and violent shapes that strike chords in the unconscious without triggering answers.

The general impression is one of a tragic outlook: the prognosis pessimistic, for Hussein's strange but recognisable human beings are bandaged, bonded, trodden down, frightened by forces greater than themselves caught up in a world of barbed wire, boundaries and red tape.

Hussein mixes forms and lines that behave independently with identifiable thus creating a distorted, malformed inner world rather than one that is purely abstract. That this is an inner world of fears, anxieties and ponderables we are dealing with and not a world outside the picture, is suggested by the wormy, misshapen shapes, the alien spatial elements and the accompanying "frame" of colour that frame within a frame that implies he is delving inwards.

It is not easy to paint elusive impressions, feelings and ideas of such a high order. Hussein tackles his subjects like a

composer—he takes an image, the human body, distorts it to make his own peculiar sound, then groups it together with other bodies, covers the canvas with them in an oddly rhythmic way or shifts the balance right left or centre.

The images, together with other signs and symbols float freely in a world without gravity, flotsam at the mercy of fate. A sense of fatalism and victimisation is engineered through the heavy mascara lines.

Thick and powerful they outline the onomatopoeic shapes, trap them, pierce them, split the canvas surface like a chasm or generally disrupt the rhythmic flow, rupturing the picture into segments. Use made of ornamental areas of scratchy crescents and calligraphy — pieces of reality placed together into a dreamlike absurdity that hurts the eye and allows us to feel the painting rather than see it.

How successful Hussein is in penetrating our senses depends on the individual. Hussein though doesn't muddle the canvas. He uses Chinese ink and pastel and the images are simplified, and in some the paintings reduced to the minimal. The paper itself at times lending its character to the composition, for example the holes of file paper are incorporated into three pen and ink drawings. This economy, along with empty, one colour backgrounds through the pictorial message forward to stand like a word alone on a page, waiting to be decoded. Although at times technique has been sacrificed to the subject, the artist has made a serious effort in what is a very difficult area.



His is a world of bondage and barbed wire

On the music scene...

THE ROYAL CULTURAL Centre will be host to two classical music recitals this week. The first, sponsored by the Goethe Institute will feature the Joachim Quartet in a programme of works by Beethoven, Haydn and Ravel. Concert hour is 8:00 pm on Sunday 2 December.

The Joachim Quartet are one of Germany's leading string ensembles, they won the German Music Competition in Bonn in 1978 and

they have played regularly for German Radio.

On Tuesday 4 December at 8:00 pm the Arts Festival Trio of Italy will present a recital of works by Telemann, Lohini, Molino and Beethoven.

The trio, which consists of guitar and two violins, are noted for their original programmes and musical accuracy. Their visit to Amman has been sponsored by the Italian Embassy.

Concerts

The Goethe Institute presents a concert by the Joachim Quartet (String quartet)
Sunday 2 December at 8.00 pm at the Royal Cultural Centre
The Italian Embassy presents a concert by the Arab Festival Trio (violin, viola and guitar)

Exhibitions

The French Cultural Centre presents 'Meditations' an exhibition of paintings by Hussein Da'sh
Continues until Wednesday 5 December
The British Council presents an exhibition of watercolours by Jack Kaplanian.
Ends Thursday 29 November.
The Royal Cultural Centre presents an exhibition of Village scenes in pen and ink and oils by Saleh Abu Shindi.
Continues until Thursday 6 December.

Films

The French Cultural Centre presents 'Le Pelican' a 1973 film, directed by Gerard Blain and starring Dominique Rivin.
Thursday 29 November at 7.45 pm.
The Goethe Institute presents 'Chinesisches Roulette' a 1973 film directed by R. W. Fassbinder and starring Alexander Allerson, Margit Carstensen, Andrea Schöber and Anna Karina.
Wednesday 5 December at 8.00 pm.
The British Council presents the film 'Privileged' a love story set in Oxford University
Monday 3 December at 7.00 pm.
Tuesday 4 December at 8.00 pm.

Lectures

The American Centre of Oriental Research presents a lecture by Dr. Robert Bolling on 'The Results of the Madaba Plains (Umeiri) Survey: the 1984 season'.
Monday 3 December at 6.30 pm at A.C.O.R.
In co-operation with the Goethe Institute, the German Protestant Institute for the Archaeology of the Holy Land presents a lecture by Dr. August Strobel on 'The Star of the Messiah' (Historical background information for understanding the Christian Christmas tradition).
Tuesday 4 December at 7.30 pm at the Goethe Institute.

Bazaars

The Friends of Liver Patients society is holding a fund raising bazaar at the Amra Hotel. Goods on sale will include paintings, ceramics, artificial flowers, toys and games, handcrafts, embroidery, food and Christmas cards.
Saturday and Sunday 1 and 2 December from 10.30 am to 6.00 pm.
The Young Women's Muslim Association is holding a Turkish charity bazaar at Al Hussein Youth City.
Sunday 2 and Monday 3 December from 11.00-1.00 pm and 4.00-6.00 pm.

Friends of Archaeology

THE FRIENDS have a fairly quiet programme planned for December. There is only one field trip coming up and that will be to the Early Bronze Age site of Umm Hanun east of Sharqi in the Jordan Valley.

Dr. Svend Holms who is conducting his second season of work at the site will lead the tour. Departure is the usual 8.30 am from the Department of Antiquities Registration Centre but the Friends are planning to skip the customary picnic and be back in Amman by 1.00 pm.

Lectures

Our trips may be sparse but lectures are plentiful for the month.
ACOR will be hosting two, on Monday 3 and Tuesday 11 December at 6.30 pm. The first will be by ACOR NEH fellow Dr. Robert Bolling on 'The Results of the Madaba Plains (Umeiri) Survey: the 1984 season'. The second lecture, on 11 December, will be by ACOR Shell Fellow, Mr. Brian Byrd on 'Jordan During the Epipaleolithic and Early Neolithic Periods'.

Between these two lectures, on Tuesday 4 December at 7.30 pm, there will be a lecture at the Goethe Institute. Speaker is Dr. August Strobel, Director of the German Protestant Institute in Jerusalem, and his subject is 'The Star of the Messiah' an introduction to the historic background of the Christmas tradition.

The Friends of Archaeology is a cultural organization devoted to the promotion of archaeology in Jordan. Anyone interested in learning more about the history and archaeology of Jordan is welcome to join. For further information contact Mrs. Theresa Wegelius, tel. 42467.



Just a few of the traditional dresses of India

Smiles on an Indian morning

Dressed in her elegant sari, and with a lovely smile on her face, Mrs Manjula Santoshi, wife of the Indian Ambassador to Amman, stood at the door of her residence last Saturday to welcome visitors to an Indian morning. She held a plate with a lighted candle surrounded by flowers and moved it in circles before the visitor then marked their forehead with red powder in the traditional way of Indian greeting.

A number of ladies from the diplomatic corps along with other friends of Mrs Santoshi responded to the mood of the greeting and were soon chatting happily to each other. Mrs Santoshi welcomed her guests a second time and then spoke a little about India, the vast country with its varied traditions. She said she wanted to introduce her guests to her country through one aspect of its rich history, that is by showing the costumes of some regions of the country as one aspect of Indian traditions.

Mrs Sushma Bhatia began the show by modelling a regular sari and demonstrated step by step the way of draping it and putting on.
From South India, Miss Premilla Mani displayed the kind of sari worn in Coorg. This is unlike ordinary saris in that its pleats are formed at the back instead of at the front.

Mrs P. Ramachandran Nair then performed the Bharatanatyam, a typical dance of the southern Indian state Tamil Nadu. With her special sari and its complementary ornaments, the anklets in particular to give her dance steps rhythm, Mrs Nair moved her body, hands and feet with quite professional skill. For this dance, which takes more than six years to master, the hair has to be decorated with fresh flowers and Mrs Nair let a long line of flowers curl around her



Mrs Santoshi extends the traditional Indian greeting to Mrs Ayoub, wife of Jordanian Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayoub.

long plait to add a special touch of elegance to her movements.

Mrs Shobha Kumar paraded in a hand woven sari from Maharashtra in Western India. As with all the saris of the particular regions, her ornaments were designed particularly to match her costume. Saris of North India were also displayed with Miss Revathy Jayaram showing the one typical of Rajasthan while Mrs Shaheen Khalid displayed the costume of Lucknow.

The Mughal costume which was introduced to India by the Muslims and is now known as the ghaghara, was modelled by Mrs Azra Lemp. The final event of the costume show was a presentation by Mrs Geets Bhatia of the traditional bridal sari. She had special golden ornaments to adorn her forehead and arms, hands and ankles. She had also painted the palms of her hands and parts of her feet with Henna.

After the costume display the guests had the chance to enjoy

Mrs Santoshi's special home prepared Indian snacks. And as the guests thanked Mrs Santoshi for their most enlightening morning she, in turn, thanked Mrs Sarale Narayan for her help in its preparation.

In his capacity as President of the Friends of Eye Bank and Protection, of Sight Loss Society His Highness Prince Ra'd Bin Zaid had a very rewarding trip to the University of Jordan on Sunday. Prince Ra'd went there to take delivery of an eye clinic car donated by the Amman Lions Club.

At the handing over ceremony Mr Tawfiq Marar of the Lions Club expressed his hope that the gift will help the society in its work of conducting a survey of the number of people in Jordan with eye problems.

Also present on the occasion were the president of Jordan University Dr Abdul Salam Al-Majali along with members of the university staff and Lions Club members.

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Come to buy, come to learn

President of the Society for the Friends of Liver Patients Mrs Bada Toukan is hoping that the society's bazaar to be opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath at the Amra Hotel on 1 December will be a many faceted event.

First of all, of course, it will be fundraising event but visitors should also have a very entertaining day browsing through the tempting selection of goods for sale. Visual delight should come from the paintings for sale which have been contributed by such well known artists as Efema Yik, Bassam Shetkh Jawad, Jamal Badran, Bassam Nasr and Laila Atallah.



The society for the Friends of Liver Patients

Friends of Liver Patients and the reasons for its establishment.

Mrs Toukan points out that liver disease is a major problem in Jordan and one that particularly affects the poorer members of society. There are over one hundred different types of liver disorders and the incidence of virally induced liver disease is Jordan is ten times higher than that in some other areas of the world. Many of these diseases causes problems for those in the age group of 35 and over and often strike those least able to afford the necessary treatment.



Princess Sarvath

Other items to tempt the buyer include ceramics, toys and games, handcrafts, embroidery, brasswork and artificial flowers. There will be a selection of homemade food contributed by the ladies of the diplomatic corps and by members of the society and naturally no December bazaar is complete without a selection of Christmas cards.

And don't forget that travel is your dream, lottery prizes include free tickets to Rome, Bombay and Cyprus.

But Mrs Toukan is hoping that the bazaar will serve an extra purpose in giving visitors a chance to learn more about the work of the Society for the



Saleh Abu Shindi

The society believes that one of major contributing factors to the high level of liver disease in Jordan is that most people are not aware of how serious the problem is nor do they know enough about liver diseases, their causes and treatment.

One of the tasks the society has set itself is to promote public awareness and understanding of liver disease. They are also hoping encourage research by providing funding and facilities for research workers and to establish a national centre for the study and treatment of liver disease.

But, aware that research and information will take some time to have an impact on the incidence of liver diseases, the society is also keen to take immediate practical steps such as giving financial help to patients who cannot afford treatment and guiding them to the correct centres for treatment.

Anyone who is interested in finding out more about the society and its work can go along to the bazaar at the Amra and learn as they buy.

The bazaar will run from 10.30 am to 6.00 pm on Saturday and Sunday 1 and 2 December.

Jerusalem Star readers are already familiar with artist Saleh Abu Shindi's delightful sketches of Jordanian village life which have graced our entertainment page over the past months. But if you would like to see more of Mr Abu Shindi's work, you can go along to his exhibition which runs at the Royal Cultural Centre until 1 December.

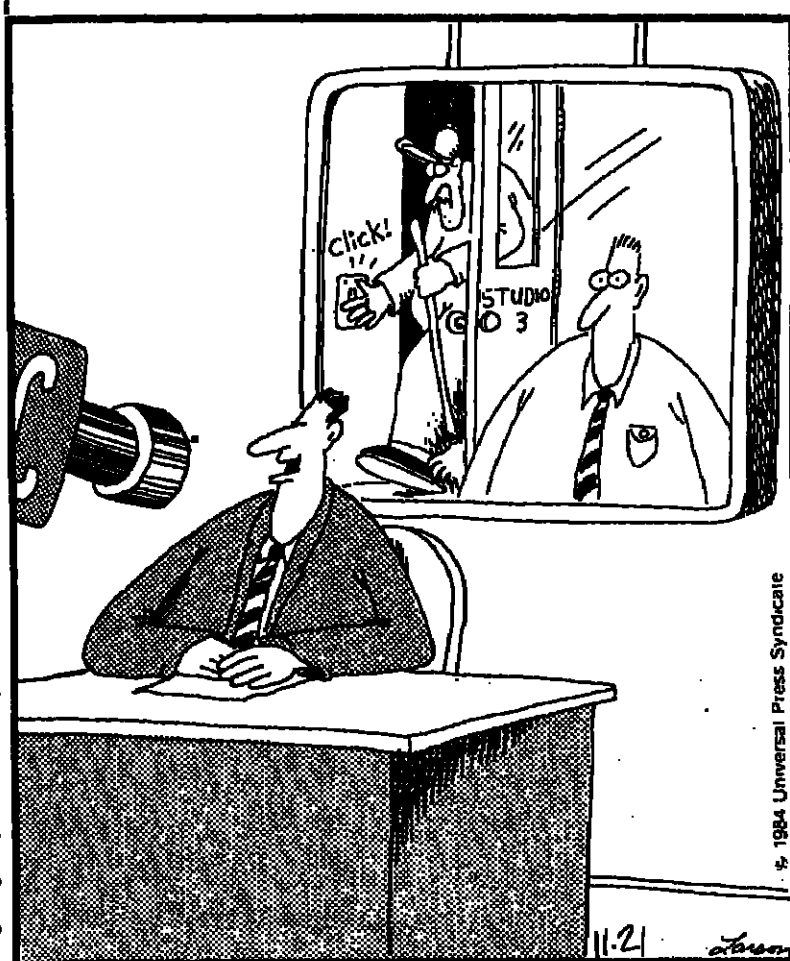
Works on show include about 50 pen and ink drawings, mainly village scenes of buildings, people and animals and 20 oil paintings encompassing a variety of subjects. Mr Abu Shindi is also showing a small selection of his early works. Painted between 1964 and 1967.



"Remember me, Mr. Schneider? Kenya, 1947. If you're going to shoot at an elephant, Mr. Schneider, you better be prepared to finish the job."

The Far Side

By GARY LARSON



"My next guest, on the monitor behind me, is an organized crime informant. To protect his identity, we've placed him in a darkened studio—so let's go to him now."



The artistic touch can be seen in buildings and public areas in Czechoslovakia

Art, the face of a nation

By Kathy Kaklah
Star Staff Writer

THE POSITIVE aspect about Jordanian art is the huge number of talented artists, who are trying their hands at developing a national style. The negative element is that talents are obliged to receive their training abroad due to the lack of proper local art institutes, thus leading to their expressing the Jordanian feelings and culture through foreign techniques.

This is one of the several observations Dr. Agnes Schrammova, of the Czechoslovakian Slovak National Gallery, made during her one-week stay in Jordan. She was invited to visit Jordan to form a general idea about the country's culture and arts under the three-year cultural and scientific agreement signed between Czechoslovakia and Jordan last May. Before departing from Amman, Dr. Schrammova took some of her time out to chat with The Star about her observations of Jordanian art as well as that of her own country.

"Jordanian artists are very talented and have succeeded in expressing their feelings, the people's feelings and the deep sensitivity of their psychology through the means of colours," Dr. Schrammova said. But where these artists succeed in expressing attitudes, Dr. Schrammova believes, they have failed to use spontaneously born cultured based techniques, and have no other choice but to draw upon those of other cultures.

She also believes that the lack of a national artistic technique is due to the absence of a properly developed arts programme within the school system which will provide children with a professionally prepared background linked to the homeland. Such a conclusion came about when she compared the Jordanian educational system with that of Czechoslovakia, which has integrated an effective programme, starting with kindergarten classes.

"Children with exceptional artistic abilities are given great attention at school and are encouraged to attend additional art classes at the National Arts School for Children after school hours, twice a week," Dr. Schrammova explained. These children are given proper super-

vision and taught by professional artists and teachers of art.

Once in high school, these children can take intensive art courses at their own schools if they decide to make art their future profession. Such art courses cover all types of arts ranging from the handicrafts of textiles, ceramics, glass and wood to music, dance and acting. Yet, such courses basically concentrate on the handicrafts and art of the local region. "For an example, if a particular area is famous for its glass-making, students will be taught the craft and art of glass-making and design. Once they graduate from the high school, they are fully trained to take up a fulltime job and help developing the industry of the area," she said.

High school graduates of remarkable artistic talents and who desire to continue their studies in art apply at one of the three Czechoslovakian universities which graduate remarkable artists into the world of culture. But applicants have to undergo a very demanding examination before they are accepted, as only some 200 undergraduates are annually accepted.

Dr. Schrammova pointed out that basic artistic training introduced at an early age has several benefits. Besides creating a love for arts and reflecting itself on the physical aspects of the country, the country's culture is not lost.

"This does not mean that we aim at preserving art and handicraft as they were centuries ago. The idea is far from this," Dr. Schrammova stresses. The level of Czechoslovakian art has remained extremely high and works of art are beautifully designed and made because artists have added their own individual talents based on and stemming from their traditions and culture.

Another matter the people of Czechoslovakia are proud of is that when any of its artists, whether painters, musicians, actors, dancers or handicraftsmen, happen to become worldwide famous, their works always maintain a national touch. Dr. Schrammova mentioned the names of musician Jan Zravy, sculptor Jaroslav Stursa and



Dr. Agnes Schrammova

phic Albin Brunousky to be among such artists.

The country tends to encourage its artists and arts in many ways. Most, if not all, buildings are not complete in construction unless an artist puts in the final touches; public areas such as parks, are decorated with statues and other works of sculptures. The government follows a plan through which the number of artists the country requires is defined, and it graduates art students selectively. Thus, the approximated 2,000 artists of all types in Czechoslovakia hold jobs either with organizations or private galleries.

Dr. Schrammova herself is one of the talented who found their way to university. She graduated from the Komenský University of Bratislava in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in Metal Processing in Slovak Applied Arts, which covers the art of blacksmith, metal beating and goldsmith trade. Since graduation, she has been working at the Slovak National Gallery as a specialist and custodian for the artistic collection of applied arts and handicrafts, which besides metal art, includes textile, ceramics, and glass. She also participates in preparations for exhibitions held locally and internationally, commissioned by the Czechoslovakian Culture Ministry, the Slovak Association for Fine Arts and the Slovak National Gallery.

Dr. Schrammova intends to write several press articles about her stay in Jordan for arts magazines, after having submitted a detailed report about the artistic characteristics and cultural activities of Jordan to the National Gallery.



All Things Considered

Joyce Abu Jassar

Lifestyle

I HAVE just been reading an article discussing lifestyles that says that style is the 'how' of human expression. That on another level, a more immediate personal level, is the 'how' of our approach to living itself... Lifestyle.

This entails how we go about the job of living, the little decisions we make each day, often unconsciously, regarding career, family, friends, professional and vocational activities, eating, sleeping, recreation, and physical exercise that give our personal lives their own colour and flavour.

It was a very interesting piece that sorted out all the details on what we should think about. While reading it, I was struck by the two obvious presumptions that the author had unconsciously made. The first is that there was enough peace and prosperity so that there were choices available. Second, that any individual was in a position where he could take advantage of the present opportunities.

The conference just held here in Amman was a testament that these two factors don't exist for the many refugees in the region. If the Palestinian people, those in the refugee camps, or their relatives, friends and families had any peace or prosperity, they wouldn't be living in those camps. For them, life is a matter of basic survival and that just can't be dignified by the term 'life-style'.

We have all heard the phrases subhuman conditions, intolerable circumstances, and the rest in the steady flow of articles protesting against the historical events of the past 37 years that have resulted in masses of people being condemned to these camps. But how many of us have actually seen what this means in the life of any individual who lives under these conditions?

The little decision of career is transformed into whether or not you have any sort of job. Family — are they still alive? and will you ever be able to see them again? Friends — are they in the same country with you, or in the same camp or across town? If they stayed in the West Bank, then you wonder if they have been arrested, put in prison, or if they have any chance of being released.

Eating — instead of having your own source of water, you must rely on one tap that has to serve as a hundred families in your sector of the camp. That means sending someone out with a five gallon can at least twice a day to get water for the household needs. And your diet is decided by how much money you have to spend on food and the time you have spent standing in line with your ration card, pushing and shoving against your fellow refugees to get to the head of the non-existent lines. Sleeping — all too often this is done on the cold cement floor with only a thin blanket wrapped around you so that the chill creeps through and the dampness to give muscles a chill and painful, sharp ache that will be with you until spring. The only warmth available to you are the perhaps ten other people who are cramped into the three-by-three metres room with you. And if you catch a cold or influenza, you will have it more than the usual two weeks and you will count yourself lucky if it does not develop into pneumonia. And the children under five years of age who develop respiratory tract infections and have diarrhoea added to this will be fortunate if they have the chance to see another spring.

Professional people, skilled technicians, and those with substantial financial resources may be spared some of these agonies but for the majority of the Palestinian refugees the colour of their lives is the shade of dark ashes and the flavour of it is bitter.

Would you believe it?

SOLICITOR James Cooper bought London's narrowest house — just six feet wide and advertised as "of interest to this people" — for £33,000 at an auction in London recently.

"It's a funny little place," Cooper said of the five-floor building squeezed into the middle of a terrace in the Shepherd's Bush area. "I am not particularly thin, but I have managed to squeeze inside." — Reuter.

NORWEGIAN FISHERMAN Waldemar Andersen found the gold earring his wife had lost in the North Sea a week previously in the stomach of a cod fish he caught while fishing in the same place.

Andersen's wife, Ragnhild, told the daily Verdens Gang: "Think of all the fish swimming around here and that the same cod that swallowed my earring should bite on my husband's fishing hook." — Reuter.

Intimate Starcasts

By Henry Arnold

Week commencing 29 November, 1984

CAPRICORN — December 21st to January 19th



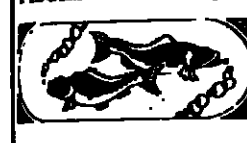
Don't be impatient in your romantic affairs this week, or you could find that a slightly troublesome week lies ahead of you. Quite a bit of travel seems very likely this week, and you should really enjoy a pleasant change, particularly socially. Where finances are concerned, you should not take any risks, however small they may be, or things are liable to go wrong. There should be a definite improvement in family affairs.

AQUARIUS — January 20th to February 18th



You have every right to feel more optimistic about a member of the opposite sex, for your friendship with them is very well started indeed. You may come up against a few minor irritations this week, but you should be on top form, so these should present no particular difficulties. Try not to let a friend become too dependent upon you, or you may find that this will make you feel unsettled in several ways.

PISCES — February 19th to March 20th



You will find that social life may be a little slack just now, so this would be a very good time to get down to an interesting hobby, and by the end of the week, you should be pleased with your progress. You should find that it will pay you to be nice to someone you dislike, and in consequence you yourself should feel much more at ease. You would be well advised to make that little extra effort to please a friend.

ARIES — March 21st to April 20th



A new attractive member of the opposite sex should help to make an old wound start to heal, and you should begin to feel much happier than you have done for some time past. Arrangements for a social gathering may not work out as you had planned. You should make the most of it rather than get depressed. Towards the end of the week, you may spend a happy time in the company of new friends and you should get on very well with them.

TAURUS — April 21st to May 20th



You may feel that someone you are very fond of is worrying over something. Try to help them as much as possible, and they will greatly appreciate it. Good fortune should be with you this week, in making rather an important decision, so there is no need for any unnecessary worry in this direction. Even though you may be feeling just a little tired this week, try not to be irritable.

GEMINI — May 21st to June 20th



You will find that social activities should go with a swing during this week, and you may be able to impress several people with your capability of organising. A very attractive member of the opposite sex, of whom you are very fond, could give you a pleasant surprise, and in consequence, a rather unusual journey seems to be indicated towards the weekend. Don't hesitate to ask a close friend for some help in planning a future arrangement.

Thursday 29 November

Birthday Greetings to You. Those among you who are eligible should find lasting happiness from a romance. When you have reached the end of February, you can expect a fairly gay social time with lots of invitations. Around the March period, you should gain a great deal of happiness by receiving news of a very old friend.

Even though you may have been feeling just a little off colour during the past few weeks, all the indications are that your health should show every sign of improvement, and you should be feeling all right.

An unexpected opportunity for you to travel should please you, for this could at the same time mean a financial gain which could make you feel just that little more secure.

Friday 30 November

Birthday Greetings to You. Those of you who may have been worried about your health just recently, should find that you have a very satisfactory year in this direction.

Where your career is concerned, someone in a high position could give you praise, plus reward for your past efforts, and it is after this that your career should take a turn for the better, and great success is indicated for you in this direction so do not seek the changes rather let these come to you.

During these next few weeks, you may realise that one member of your family is relying on you more and more which is not all that good for them. Being your usual diplomatic self, it would be wise to encourage them to think for themselves a little more. On the other hand, however, family ties are likely to be very strong during these coming months.

Saturday 1 December

Birthday Greetings to You. Through the help of someone in authority, career-wise, taking a deep interest in you, you could be able to gain that long awaited promotion, plus rewards for any hard work and ideas that you have done.

Where cash is concerned, you may be feeling just a little insecure at the moment, but all the indications are that during March and April, you could receive a pleasant surprise in that direction, after which you will be feeling much more comfortable even though you appear to be spending more than you should during July and August.

Where your social life is concerned, all the indications are that this will be particularly active throughout the whole of the coming twelve months, and for the young and eligible, romance should be very well to the fore, and in consequence, you should find yourself very much in demand.

20 NOVEMBER 1984

CANCER — June 21st to July 21st

Now is the time to take a firm stand in a domestic matter, and you should find the opposition you expected no longer exists. This is a week when you could meet up with annoying little irritations at business, but where personal affairs are concerned, you should be the tops. A friend could easily start a silly argument over a trivial matter, but just as long as you keep quiet, this should soon blow over.

LEO — July 22nd to August 21st

A new interest appears likely to enter your life which may meet with some opposition at first, but this will soon be overcome if you are patient. A chance to use your initiative and make a good impression could occur and you would be well advised to take advantage of this. Activity on the home front will probably mean some rushing about, but you should find this most enjoyable.

VIRGO — August 22nd to September 21st

This should be a rewarding week in personal relationships, and much happiness can be gained from helping others. You may have to make a decision that could annoy somebody but don't hesitate, you are doing the right thing. You would be very unwise to be over-critical of what your partner does, for in this way, you could spoil a very promising friendship.

LIBRA — September 22nd to October 22nd

This is a week when you should be able to make excellent progress in the romantic field, for your personality should be on top form. An old friend you have not seen for a long time may unexpectedly turn up some time during this week, and their generosity should surprise and delight you. A close friend may put a rather unusual proposition to you, but one which is well worth seriously thinking about.

SCORPIO — October 23rd to November 21st

You may feel just a little jealous of an older person this week, but try not to let this be obvious, as it is really unnecessary. Don't raise the hopes of a very sincere friend by promising them something which you know you will not carry out. At work, a person who you could be introduced to during the week should prove to be very likeable, and at the same time most helpful. You should make excellent progress in your social circle.

SAGITTARIUS — November 22nd to December 20th

You would be well advised to stick to routine this coming week, and also keep business and personal affairs apart. An elderly person could be just a little bit stubborn, and this could make you feel tired. Talk things over, and everything should soon be back to normal. A long awaited opportunity may come your way at the weekend. You should not hesitate, or you could lose a chance of great happiness.

Birthday Information Charts

Monday 3 December

Birthday Greetings to You. The coming year will be a very mixed one for you, with many changes in plans and in scenery. Regardless of all this, it will still be a very happy year, and much progress will be made.

Someone for whom you have a slight affection will begin to mean more and more to you as the year goes on, and in time this will develop into a deep and lasting friendship or even love. This in some way will be linked with the numbers 3 and 5, even though this may seem very strange as the time passes by.

You should be much better money-wise than you are at the moment, and providing you are not madly extravagant, and have many rash spending sprees, you will be alright.

Tuesday 4 December

Birthday Greetings to You. Someone in authority will be impressed with your consistent progress work-wise, and towards the end of February, you may be given an opportunity to travel, which is connected with your work. This could lead to much bigger things in the near future.

Socially, you are starred for a very busy and active period. It is more than possible that you find yourself doing quite an amount of entertaining, especially during the summer months. Wedding bells are indicated in the family circle and possibly a sudden birth.

In your new sphere since this incident, you will meet up with many new people, and one of these will come to mean a great deal to you over the years.

Wednesday 5 December

Birthday Greetings to You. You may find that you have need to watch your health just a little during the next few weeks, but as long as you are careful all round, you should be feeling 100 per cent fitter for some time.

Where social activities are concerned, you have quite an interesting year ahead of you, both active and busy, and you should at the same time find yourself extremely popular.

This is a year in which there is every chance that promotion will be offered to you and all the indications are that this should be in the next two to three months. Also, your financial affairs should become more comfortable when you have reached March period.

Your personal life should be more secure this coming year than for some time past, and also now start to become extremely interesting.

THE JERUSALEM STAR 25

Christmas prize for a Christmas card

Send us your own coloured drawing of a Christmas card and maybe you will win one of the following prizes:

1st prize: Your choice of a radio-controlled truck or a kitchen centre over 26 inches high. Other prizes include Tamia car assembly kit, 5 sets of animal body puzzles, 3 poster painting sets, a chess table with accessories and a collection of story books.

The size of the card should be 20 x 14 cm and participants' age from 6-16. Send your drawing no later than 13 December to

Star Kids, P O Box 591, Amman - Jordan

Santa and The Star are coming your way



Joke Spot

A mouse was twisting on a bottle another mouse came and asked: "Why are you twisting on the bottle?" The mouse replied, "On the bottle cork it is written 'Twice To Open.'"

Diner: Walter, this food is horrible! I want to speak to the owner of the restaurant.

Walter: Sorry sir, but he's out to lunch!

A clergyman asked a small girl: "Do you say your prayers every night, my dear?" "Oh no, Mummy says them for me." "And what does she say?" "She says, 'Thank heaven you're in bed at last!'"

Lady of the house: What can I do for you?

Beggar: If you don't mind, I would like a coat sewn on this button.

The Wind

This house has been far out at sea all night. The woods crashing through darkness, the booming hills. Winds stampeding the fields under the window. Floundering black astride and blinding wet.

Till day rose; then under an orange sky The hills had new places, and wind wielded Blade-light, luminous black and emerald, Flexing like the lens of a mad eye.

At noon I scaled along the house-side as far as The coal-house door. I dared once to look up — Through the brunt wind that dented the balls of my eyes The tent of the hills drummed and strained its guyrope.

The fields quivering, the skyline a grimace, At any second to bang and vanish with a flap: The wind flung a magpie away and a black-back gull bent like an iron bar slowly. The house Rang like some fine green goblet in the note That any second would shatter it. Now deep In chairs, in front of the great fire, we grip Our hearts and cannot entertain book, thought, Or each other. We watch the fire blazing, And feel the roots of the house move, but sit on, Seeing the window tremble to come in, Hearing the stones cry out under the horizons.

Ted Hughes.

it's a record

From the Guinness Book of Records compiled by Norris McWhirter

A PEREGRINE FALCON CAN DETECT A PIGEON AT A RANGE OF 3.300FT.

THAT'S ONLY GOOD NEWS FOR FALCONS...

SMALLEST KNOWN SPRING IS THE WIDELY DISTRIBUTED LEUKOSOLENIA BLANCA WHICH MEASURES 0.11 INCH WHEN FULLY GROWN.

THIS IS FULLY GROWN?

THE LAW FIRM OF BAKER & MCKENZIE, FOUNDED IN CHICAGO, USA IN 1949 HAS 600 LAWYERS IN 29 COUNTRIES.

JOBS FOR LAWYERS... AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.

TEA BAGS WERE INVENTED BY THOMAS SULLIVAN, NEW YORK IN 1904.

TEA AS IN THOMAS OR AS IN TEABAGS?

Our Fascinating EARTH

BY PHILIP SEFF, Ph.D. & DAVID BAER, II

Recognition CAME SLOWLY

CAVE PAINTINGS OF ANIMALS HUNTED BY ICE AGE MAN HAVE BEEN KNOWN SINCE THE 15TH CENTURY BUT WERE FEARFULLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE SUPERNATURAL, SUCH AS DEMONS.

TODAY THEY ARE UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED AS PREHISTORIC ART. THERE ARE 120 KNOWN ART CAVES, AND AN AVERAGE OF 2 NEW ONES ARE FOUND EACH YEAR. THE BEST THUS FAR ARE LASCAUX CAVE, FRANCE, AND THE CAVE OF ALTAMIRA, SPAIN, BUT WHO KNOWS WHAT WONDERS MAY YET BE FOUND?

ODDITIES

A picnic in the desert, at Biskra, on the edge of the Sahara.

What is a desert?

A DESERT is a dry region where, because there is practically no rain, there is no vegetation and the surface of the land is bare. Deserts are usually situated in the centre of the larger masses of land like Australia, Africa and Asia, and are cut off from the sea by mountain ranges.

Most of the winds that blow from the big land masses are dry winds, while the damp winds from the sea are robbed of their moisture before they have reached the interior of the continent. Sea winds will quickly lose their moisture if they have to pass over high mountains near the coast. Most of the big deserts like the Sahara in Africa, the Gobi in Asia, Central Australia, as well as others in North and South America, are either near the centre of large land masses or are protected from the moist sea breezes by high mountains near the coast.

When a land surface is free from vegetation, the sun has great power during the day, and the nights are very cold. This causes the rocks to crack and break up, while the wind wears the smaller pieces down to sand. Thus deserts, as well as being without vegetation, are generally stony and sandy.

IN BRIEF

Eto wins skiing championship

THE JAPANESE skier, Eto (15) won the 1984 world skiing championship in ladies singles, beating the American Debbie Thomas who was in the lead until the last day of the tournament.

In the doubles, the two Soviet skiers, Veronica Pershinina and Marat Akbatov won first position. The British Caren Barber and British Slater won first place in ski dancing. The men's singles, was won by Alexander Vadviev of the Soviet Union.

Weight lifting

THE BULGARIAN weight lifter Naim Sulaimanov has set three world records in the 60 kilogrammes group.

Dickson, top scorer

KERRY DICKSON has so far scored 19 goals for his club in the English soccer tournament. While Gary Hamister scored 15 goals to claim second position.

IFAG rejects South Korean request

THE INTERNATIONAL Federation of Amateur gymnasts has rejected a South Korean request to make schedule amendments for the 1988 olympic games, during a meeting held in Australia last week.

Tough opponents for Qatari team

AMMAN (Star) — The president of the Qatari soccer federation Mr. Abdul, stated that the Qatari team has to face three strong teams in its group: Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and South Korea in the forthcoming Asian Nations cup tournament scheduled to start in Singapore from 1-16 December. There is no change in the Qatari team, however, they have a new coach.

Turkey to host international conference

AMMAN (Star) — The executive committee of the international sports press association agreed to the holding of the 1985 conference by Turkey following Colombia's refusal to host the conference.

The executive committee reviewed problems that confronted sports journalists in Los Angeles Olympics, and how to avoid them in 1988 in Seoul Olympics.

Liverpool leads in English soccer

LIVERPOOL team

LONDON (Star) — Liverpool team is likely to lead the English soccer especially after it ran a particular plan to get back the trust of its supporters. Liverpool continued its winning spree with a comfortable (2-0) victory over Ipswich, last week. And Everton lost 4-2 against Norwich and Manchester United lost against Sunderland 3-2. Next Saturday, the English soccer will enter its 17th week and there will be exciting encounters between the top teams. Following is the schedule for the week.

Arsenal Vs Luton
Aston Villa Vs Sunderland
Chelsea Vs Liverpool
Coventry Vs Tottenham
Ipswich Vs Southampton
Leicester Vs Queens Park
Manchester United Vs Norwich
Newcastle Vs Stoke
Watford Vs Nottingham Forest
Westham Vs West Bromwich
Everton Vs Sheffield Wednesday.

Navratilova trounces South African in Australian open

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Martina Navratilova, aiming to win her seventh consecutive grand slam tournament, trounced South African Yvonne Vermaak 6-1, 6-1 Wednesday to advance to the second round of the \$1.28 million Australian open tennis tournament.

Navratilova, who also is bidding to complete the calendar year grand slam and to record the 100th tournament victory of her career, took just 39 minutes to down Vermaak and register her 71st consecutive victory.

"Yvonne didn't press me because she doesn't serve and volley," said Navratilova. "I wasn't pleased that I dropped my serve, but the score is irrelevant. It's how you play that counts."

Navratilova: On a winning spree

Paris officially candidate for 1992 Olympics

PARIS (AP) — Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac formally applied to the International Olympic Committee Wednesday for his city to stage the 1992 summer games, he announced in a communique.

The formal action followed agreement Tuesday between the City and the French government of a financial agreement covering the games, after six months of negotiations.

A group of French Alpine Ski resorts last week officially applied to stage the 1992 winter games.

Other cities which are seeking the 1992 summer games are Barcelona, Spain, the hometown of IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch, Amsterdam, Brisbane, Australia, New Delhi, and Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Italian soccer enters 11th week

THE ITALIAN Football Federation cancelled its decision to suspend Maradona of Napoli following an appeal made by Maradona himself challenging the right of such an act. The soccer tournament entered its 11th week which begins on Sunday at various playgrounds. The tournament has attracted maximum international spectators because of the exciting matches played by all clubs. The schedule for the week is:

Avellino Vs Corintho
Como Vs Atlanta
Grimonis Vs Fiorentina
Inter Vs Napoli
Juventus Vs Ascoli
Rome Vs Adnisi
Sondria Vs Lazio
Verona Vs Milano

AUB teams to play in Amman, Irbid

AMMAN (Star) — The AUB delegation comprising of 70 sportsmen and 15 officials will arrive on Friday in Amman and will play demonstration matches with various teams of the universities in Jordan as per the following schedule:

Saturday visiting students basketball team meets Jordan University at 12:00 noon. Soccer at 2:30 at the University of Jordan. Volleyball and handball plays at Yarmouk University. Sunday — 2:30 soccer against Yarmouk in Irbid. 12:00 basketball at Yarmouk University Volleyball and handball at the University of Jordan.

Malaysia beats Sri Lanka in basketball

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) — Malaysia's PKNS club defeated the Colombo club of Sri Lanka 114-61 Saturday in a group B match of the World Inter-Club Asian qualifying round basketball championship.

In a group A match, the Philippines defeated Macau 126-25.

Bahrain, Brunei, China, Hong Kong, Kuwait, Macau, Malaysia, the Philippines, Qatar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan and Thailand are participating in the six-day meet which began on 22 November.

In Saturday's other match, E group C bout, Kuwait defeated Brunei 73-44.

On record

● Holmes has been adjudged as the best boxer in all weights for the month of October.

● A "Club Union" is being set up in Alexandria to include all leading sports clubs in its membership.

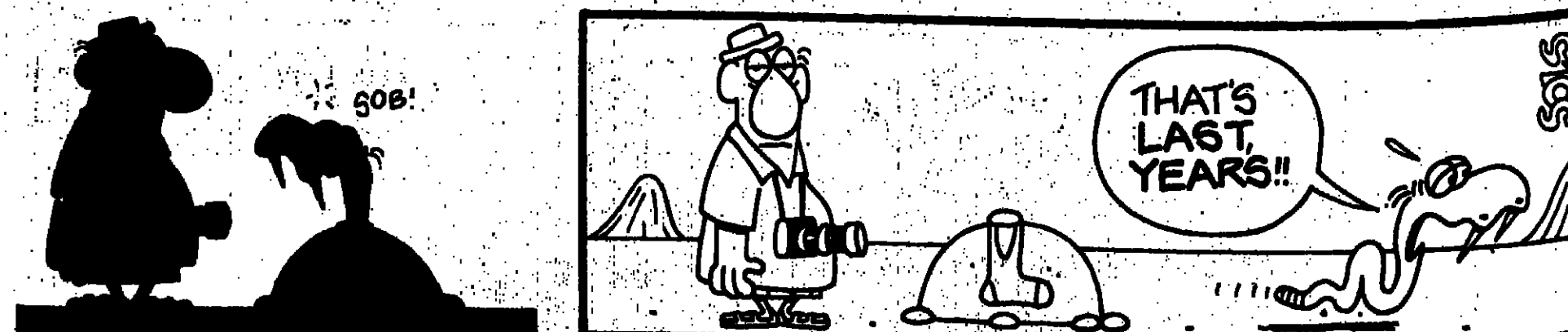
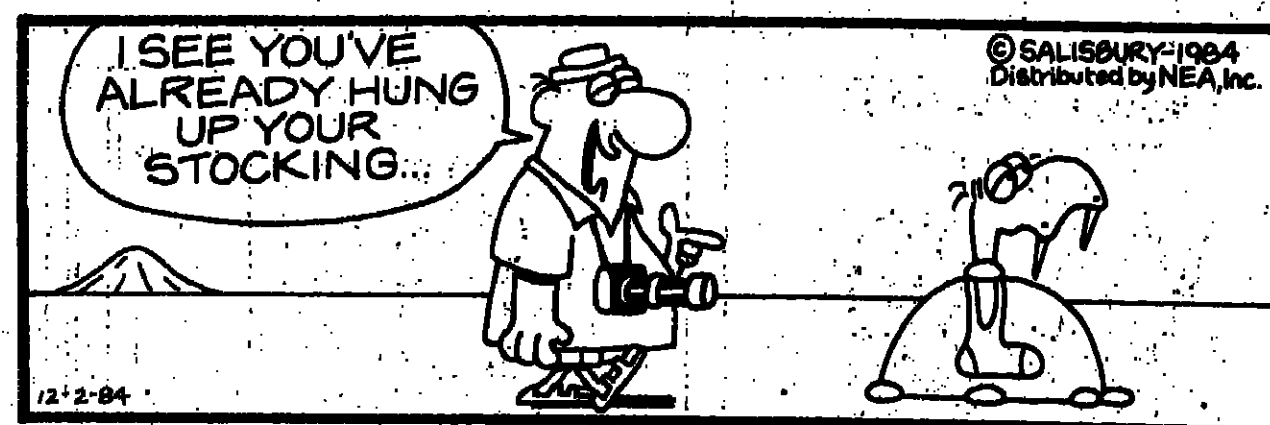
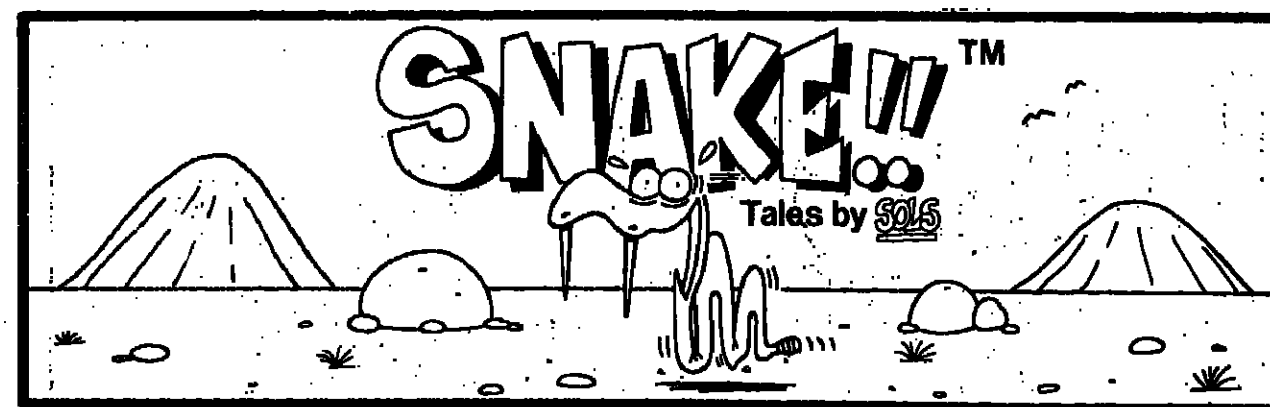
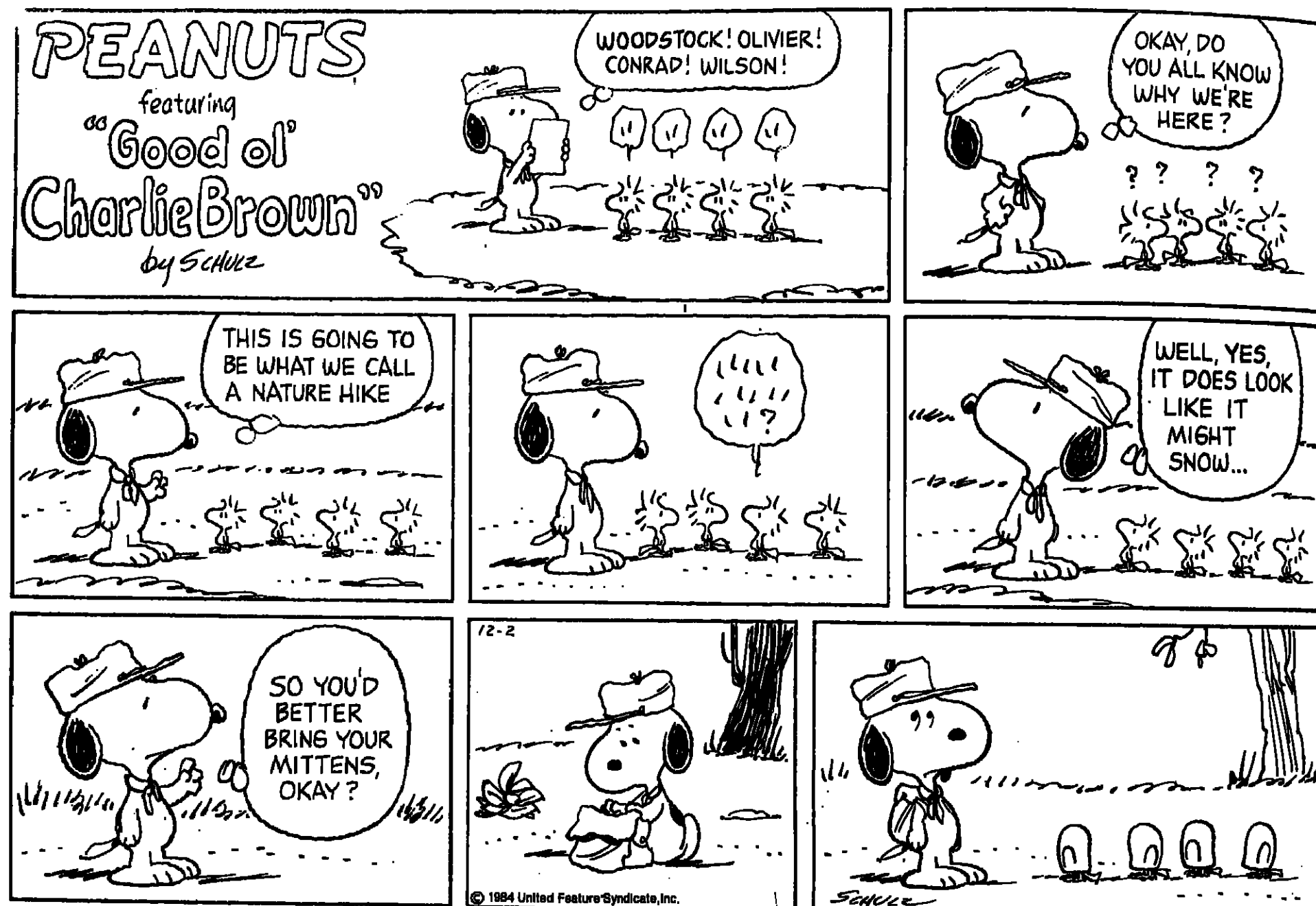
● The goal-keeper of the German national team, Tony Schumacher, has been chosen by the press as the best player of 1984.

● The advisor and coach of the Turkish soccer team resigned following the defeat (8-0) at the hands of England the World Cup qualifying group match last month.

● The Chinese Ki Tsu Kain broke the world record in pistol shooting by recording 389 points, bettering the old mark of 387 by 2 points.

PEANUTS

featuring
"Good ol'
Charlie Brown"
by SCHULZ



FRANK AND ERNEST

